

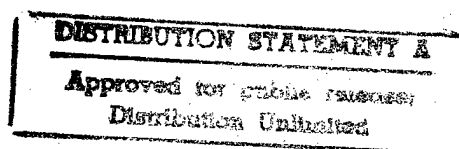
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Latin America Report

No. 2563



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30 August 1982

LATIN AMERICA REPORT

No. 2563

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PAPER REFLECTS ON FRANCE'S IDEOLOGICAL PRESENCE IN NICARAGUA

Buenos Aires LA PRENSA in Spanish 24 Jul 82 Sec 2 p 1

[Article: "France and Nicaragua"]

[Text] The president of France, Francois Mitterrand, has reiterated his support for the "cause of liberation" which in his opinion is embodied in the Communist regime of Managua. It is not the first time that he has done so because, most particularly after the joint Franco-Mexican declaration of August 1981, wherein both countries recognized the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front as a "valid interlocutor" in the Salvadoran conflict, the Elysees foreign policy in Central America has heightened its tendency favoring the guerrillas in that region.

The visit to Paris by Daniel Ortega Saavedra, coordinator of the Sandinist Junta of National Reconstruction, who was received with the honors only accorded a head of state, was a fitting occasion for the French president and his minister of external relations, Mr Cheysson, to confirm in its entirety their backing for the "independent policy" which in the opinion of both Nicaragua has pursued since the overthrow of Anastasio Somoza in 1979.

But one need not have been a friend of the late tyrant, whose greed was no less than the cruelty of his methods of control, to note that the "independent policy" being mentioned is fictional. The "fraternal assistance" offered by Cuba to Nicaragua served to bring to Managua, along with pharmaceuticals, large contingents of propagandistic ideologs of the Havana regime, military instructors and tons of communist propaganda for the hasty consumption of those who were being made literate. This was less the expression of a feeling of solidarity than the manifestation of an alliance for all purposes. Since then, Moscow has had in the Caribbean not just one satellite, but two: Cuba and Nicaragua.

These are not mere suppositions, but readily ascertainable facts. Not well consolidated in power, and after having put into practice everything implied by "brotherhood" with Cuba, the Nicaraguan regime set forth completely to achieve close ideological, commercial, cultural and political ties with the Soviet Union, as well as those of a military nature, which it had been maintaining with Moscow since the outset of the guerrilla movement. The visits by the Managua rulers to Moscow became more frequent, and, along with the signing of protocols, agreements and documents which gave life to the "revolutionary praxis" among states with

an identical ideological affiliation, Nicaragua entered the Soviet orbit entirely. One of the first signs of that agreement was the backing that the latter gave to the Soviet Union in the UN at the time of the discussion of the invasion of Afghanistan by the Kremlin's troops.

In the light of this background, the reasons given by Paris upon confirming its support for the Nicaraguan regime, claiming that "every country is entitled to choose the political line that pleases it, and should not be forced to accept the views of neighboring powers," are not convincing. In order to "choose the political line that pleases it," the Managua government has had to first stifle any contrary expression of Nicaraguan public opinion.

The weakness of the French government's arguments, particularly since it is fully cognizant of Managua's dependence on Moscow, becomes evident when, through its spokesmen, it attempts to give the impression that the assistance offered to both the Salvadoran guerrillas and the Managua regime is intended "to prevent their coming under Moscow's sphere of influence." If that were the case, the French government would have to multiply that assistance fivefold, send troops to El Salvador and fight with determination to have the communist fancies of the Central American guerrilla leaders give way to a simple, fundamental reasoning, namely, that of realizing that the alternative to a tyrannical right wing regime does not consist of its replacement with another one of the left.

But France is not so inclined. When we realize that Regis Debray, "Che" Guevara's former ideological adviser in Bolivia, is currently an adviser of the French foreign minister, that tells the whole story. But, nevertheless, one would have to add that no one would understand the absurdity represented by the ideological presence of the French government in Central America if he did not examine French domestic politics. Then one would note that these moves on behalf of the "good revolutionary" are in essence only fostered by an electoral problem.

2909

CSO: 3010/2085

SCHOENFELD WARNS AGAINST FALSE SEMBLANCE OF PEACE

Buenos Aires LA PRENSA in Spanish 3 Aug 82 p 10

[Article by Manfred Schoenfeld: "The Evil That Is Becoming Entrenched"]

[Text] Readers familiar with some of our views on Argentine foreign policy (and, more specifically, in the realm of our country's southern geopolitics and the conflicts involved therein, the diplomatic one with Chile and the armed one with the United Kingdom) are aware that one of the worst results of such conflicts, when they are not waged properly, in the right way, place and time, lies, as we see it, in the danger that the conflict will then "turn inwardly," become entrenched and end up breaking out in an anomalous fashion, at the expense of the country itself, its internal stability and its physical and spiritual health.

We repeat here what we said some time ago concerning the then (and still present) latent conflict with Chile: namely, that just as it is spurious to create a non-existent foreign conflict artificially, to "cover" internal problems, it is no less spurious to disregard or neglect real external conflicts; because then they become internal problems and compound other internal ones already present.

When we made that claim, we were thinking chiefly about the dispute with Chile, not so much of the one with Great Britain. The latter was the one which would subsequently impose priority for its rapid solution with the use of arms over a solution (not necessarily through the same means, but in any event a solution) demanded by the Beagle issue.

The solution that Argentina attempted to give, through war, to the long-standing conflict with London has not yet brought the desired results; on the contrary, our position with respect to the Malvinas has been circumstantially worsened, because while to occupy them previously did not entail anything more than a cautious military operation, to reoccupy them now, as sooner or later (and we should demand that it be sooner rather than later) will have to be done by any halfway decent Argentine government, would unquestionably entail an extensive expedition.

The Danger: Having Considered the War Ended

But the real danger lurking over the country as a whole, over the country's soul and body, over its youth and, most particularly, over its young officers (who fought so bravely and whose efforts and sacrifices ended up being unpardonably

discredited, not to mention being treated contemptuously and misspent) is the fact, in itself, that our current de facto authorities, with the tacit complicity of a vast sector of the so-called "leaders" of parties and sectors, virtually consider the southern conflict ended, with the sole, pitiful exception of continuing to drag it before the poorest of the poor per se international forums: that of the United Nations General Assembly.

Moreover, who will be the spokesman for our cause there? Our brand-new ambassador to the inoperative forum, Dr Carlos Muniz; in other words, the very one who, at the fiercest point of the battle, while our pilots were working miracles of courage that have not yet ceased to have repercussions in the world of experts, but who were also defeated, as could not have been otherwise, in scores of cases meeting death in the air or in the ocean waters, was stating that, in his view, Great Britain was not our enemy, and that to desire its defeat as a nation would affect the West.

It would be worthwhile asking in what capacity the man who will now be the spokesman for our dispute in the United Nations would have wanted to see Great Britain defeated. Wars are waged by nations among each other, or at least certain wars are; and ours was undeniably one of an unequivocal national type.

Or did Mr Muniz think that we were fighting to unseat the British conservatives and to bring the Labourists to power? We shall be in trouble with ambassadors to the UN who uphold such views!

The Economic Measures

Nevertheless, as we have already noted, the UN is (in itself) an agency of secondary importance, and its General Assembly is of even less importance. More important are the economic measures that London is maintaining against us, measures which, while they have never been met with the proper force on the part of Argentina, not even at the height of an overt war, should now prompt a hostile position on our part, which should not have consideration for anything or anyone, nor, obviously, for Argentine interests that might be affected.

In this regard, we wish to establish our opinion, which moreover is well known, that those Argentine interests which are cooperating with the British may have had a perfectly legitimate origin; but now it is essential that they be sacrificed, because they are linked with those of a country which made war on us and which has not ended it, because it is still harassing us economically, and essentially continuing to blockade our waters, as well as continuing to occupy one of our national territories with a vast military force.

Not Letting Up Or Giving an Impression of Peace

After the blow dealt to us (without question), more spiritually than in any other way, and the fate met by the national military in Puerto Argentina, the recovery of that spirit can only be achieved in one way at present: by not letting up nor giving an impression of peace or calmness to the enemy occupation force.

For this purpose, we have the advantage of the closeness of our Patagonian coast and on the other hand, the distance besetting the occupation force. The harassment must be sporadic, and it does not matter whether major military gains are

accrued from it, for the present. It is likely that we are not yet in a position to achieve this. But we must create for the occupation force the equivalent of a constant "state of red alert." It will not be easy, but it is not impossible either.

On the other hand, the allies of the British (the Americans, other English-speaking nations of the Commonwealth, and the member states of the European Community which have unconditionally taken the side of London) must have the impression that they have more to lose than we do if they make the same mistake again. It is true that we need them for our rearmament, but they are not the only suppliers of weapons; and, furthermore, it is well-known fact that the channels of the military equipment trade make it possible, in the last analysis, to obtain what is wanted and from the source that is desired, through intermediaries which are at times little less than undetectable. Also, in the sale of weapons (as in any sale) it is not the seller who is doing the purchaser a favor, but rather the reverse; or, at least, the business deal is made by the seller.

The Other Southern Conflict

Finally, we never tire of cautioning against the fact that the poor results of the conflict over the Malvinas (poor results in the extent to which we accept them as such, allow our arm to be twisted and let ourselves be beaten psychologically) may reflect negatively on the conflict with Chile.

The reader is already familiar with our position concerning the Vatican's intervention in the entire southern issue: the rather unfortunate one in the matter of the Malvinas, and the previous, even less fortunate one in the Argentine-Chilean dispute.

It is a bad time for nothing to have been settled through agreements or treaties based on mediation by the Vatican. At the present time, in this respect and from the standpoint of what is in the best interests of Argentina, it is a matter of gaining time.

Any false move, even the slightest, will also cause that evil to become entrenched and, together with the other one, to break out at any time, in the most unexpected and most unfortunate manner for the Argentine national soul.

2909

CSO: 3010/2085

VARIOUS CONCERNS IN FARM SECTOR UNDERSCORED

Buenos Aires LA NACION in Spanish 24 Jul 92 Sec 3 p 2

[Article: "Need for Agrochemicals"]

[Text] Although it is claimed that the Secretariat of Agriculture has been working actively to lend a definitive shape to the law on brands and trademarks (which has already been approved by the CAL [Legislative Advisory Commission]), and has reactivated the plan prepared by Dr Duranona y Vedia on agrarian associations, to prevent a worsening of the problem of small farms now affecting large portions of Buenos Aires Province, as a result of the subdivision of assets, the main concerns of the Secretariat actually appear to be different.

The Secretariat's officials are said to be concerned, for example, by the limits that are noted in the area of credit to producers which, in some government banks, has been completely cut off, despite the statements made by the president of the Central Bank to the effect that the traditional lines for planting and working capital expenses would not meet with any obstacles for refinancing. It is this very credit that is said to be having a burdensome effect on the economy of the producers, in view of the lack of an operational decision that is evident in this regard.

In some areas, the planting is being delayed, and although this has been influenced by the weather which has precluded completing it, the financial situation has also affected the delay.

There is also said to be uneasiness among the members of the Secretariat of Agriculture, over finding a solution to the problem of importing input: fertilizer, pesticides and agrochemicals in general, which are essential if we want to have a sizable harvest, as all the entities have been claiming. Obviously, "If we want to have foreign exchange in January, we must produce, and in order to produce more, we need agrochemicals," stated a rural leader. In this connection, it is important to point out that when the present secretary was serving as undersecretary of agriculture for the then Minister Jorge Aguado, he worked actively on behalf of favorable treatment (which might include the elimination of the VAT, for example) to enable producers to have easier access to fertilizer.

Bureaucratic Delay

The delay in putting the auditors, engineers Federico Dussel and Luis Enrique Garat, into office on the Grain and Meat Boards, as well as the head of INTA [National Institute of Agricultural and Livestock Technology], agronomical engineer Guillermo Covas, has been another cause for comment during the past few days. There is reportedly no obstacle in this regard, only a lag caused by the bureaucratic procedures which have not failed to attract notice; because all three are former officials who have held important positions in government agencies during the present process.

Meat Again

Last Thursday, when he returned from his visit to the president of the republic, General Bignone, the head of the Argentine Rural Association mentioned meat prices, among other topics. Engineer Gutierrez made it quite clear that the producers could do nothing in this respect, because their only participation involves sending the livestock to market, and waiting for the buyers to determine the price. The head of the Rural Association repeated that meat is one of the few products which are completely uncontrolled, subject to what the purchaser wants to pay.

2909

CSO: 3010/2085

ENGINEERS GROUP FOCUSES ON BASIN INTERCONNECTION PROPOSAL

Buenos Aires LA PRENSA in Spanish 24 Jul 82 p 7

[Text] At its headquarters at 511 Diagonal Roque Saenz Pena, to commemorate Pan American Engineers' day, the Pan American Union of Engineers' Associations (UPADI) held a meeting at which various approaches to the integration of the continent's basins were discussed.

Present, among others, were Minister of Public Works and Services Conrado Bauer; Secretary of Energy Esteban Guaia; Undersecretary of Water Resources Jorge Velazco Suarez and Undersecretary of Transportation Gaston Cossettini; Ambassador Alberto Dumont, head of the Latin America department of the Foreign Ministry; and representatives of the embassies and consulates of various American nations.

The opening of the symposium, called "Linking the La Plata, Amazon and Orinoco Basins," was chaired by UPADI President Pablo Gorostiaga.

South American Hydrographic Systems

Pointing out that "the linking of the three great hydrographic systems of the South American Atlantic for the purposes of river navigation is an ambitious goal, but perhaps much more attainable than would appear," President Gorostiaga asked, "What are the possibilities for uniting the tributaries of the Paraguay River and those of the La Plata Basin with the Madeiros and the Tapajoz, both important and not very distant tributaries of the Amazon? And what are the possibilities," he added, "for uniting the Negro River, which flows into the Northern Amazon, with the Orinoco River?"

"Our republics," he asserted, "communicate among themselves by sea in the transportation of merchandise, just as if they were countries on different continents. If the short distances that separate the sources of these three great hydrographic systems could be bridged with canals in order to make them navigable by vessels of adequate draft, there would be an interior connection for the economical transportation of raw materials."

Unsuspected Potential

Later on, Gorostiaga stated that "land communication by highway or railroad in many areas has been impossible, and in all areas such means are more

costly than river transportation for large cargoes and long distances. The plan to join the La Plata and the Caribbean, and to realize the communication potential of the Amazon," he added, "will open up a new, unsuspected potential for the virgin interior of the continent."

Further on, the president of UPADI recalled various projects drawn up by professionals from different countries, all related to the topic at hand. The next speaker was the Brazilian representative, Vasco Azevedo Neto, a politician and professor at the University of Bahia. He interrupted his reelection campaign to serve as a delegate for his country at the UPADI meeting.

Socioeconomic Dimensions of Project

To begin his remarks, the Brazilian representative stressed his support for the initiative taken in this matter by the president of his country, Joao Baptista Figueiredo, and Peruvian President Fernando Belaunde Terry. He also mentioned the activities of Argentine engineer Pedro Cristia and his compatriots Vicente Ottado and Carlos Rocca.

Azevedo Neto went on to discuss the advantages of river transportation with respect to the current world oil crisis. He stated: "The river mode involves an extraordinary reduction in freight costs; furthermore, the multiple use of tributaries and sub-tributaries would be facilitated so that areas that are now uninhabited could be settled, bringing about the resultant economic development without damaging the ecological equilibrium."

Later on, he expressed his support for the initiatives taken by the Andean Pact, and Amazon Pact and the Latin American Integration Association (ALADI) "in view of the socioeconomic dimensions the project will acquire."

River Connections

In another part of his speech, Azevedo Neto stated that "an approximate calculation of the principal riverway, that is, from the mouth of the Orinoco to the La Plata estuary, gives a navigable distance of approximately 8,000 kilometers. This presupposes," he added, "the construction of connecting canals, whose distance has been estimated at less than 10 percent of the total, 400 to 600 kilometers. The connection points between the three great South American hydrographic basins have already been determined. In one area an artificial canal of just 3 kilometers will have to be built to join the Guapore River, of the Amazon Basin, and the Aguapey River of the La Plata Basin. This project includes surface leveling of just 30 meters in height, while locks will be installed to eliminate the jumps between the Aguapey, Alegre, Madera-Mamore and San Gabriel Rivers."

Volga-Don System

Although he admitted that the cost of the project has not yet been determined, he insisted that it is possible. "At this time there are river connections of even greater dimensions in the world," said Azevedo Neto, "such as

the Volga-Don system in the Soviet Union, with 140,000 kilometers of navigable waters; the Seine-Mosel-Schelde-Danube linkage; and the Tennessee Valley in the United States."

Finally, the Brazilian representative urged the engineers of the continent to adopt a political position, because "the professional contribution that is essential today for political decision-making and problem-solving in a nation or a group of nations, should be considered as a whole, with an overall viewpoint."

Other Opinions

During the symposium representatives of other nations spoke, as did the dean of the La Plata School of Engineering, Roberto Diego Cotta. He stated that "just as tradition shows us that the primitive inhabitants of the South American continent communicated among themselves through the great rivers, so it can be seen that using riverways provides access to a vast continental area, from the Caribbean to the La Plata River, through the Orinoco, Casiquiare, Negro, Madeira, Guapore, Jauru, Paraguay and Parana Rivers." He mentioned the possibility of other interconnections with rivers originating in Brazil, and stressed "the importance of mass transport of large volumes, which could be done at a very low cost on riverways. This would also provide a secure and continuous system of communication and exchange."

8926

CSO: 3010/2065

CARTEZ ISSUES PROPOSALS TO REMEDY FARMERS' SITUATION

Buenos Aires LA NACION in Spanish 24 Jul 82 p 9

[Article: "CARTEZ Analyzes the Status of Agriculture"]

[Text] The lack of profitability, the level of interest rates and the debt in the sector are the factors which "comprise a totally negative situation for agricultural and livestock production," according to a statement made by the Confederation of Rural Associations of the Third Zone (CARTEZ) in an analysis made on the occasion of its regular general assembly, to be held on 31 July in Rio Cuarto, Cordoba.

The entity claims that 1981 was one of the most negative years in the last two decades from the standpoint of purchases of durable goods to be used for agricultural and livestock-raising work; and cites as an example the fact that tractor purchases during that period were the least since 1949, when that valuable tool was first produced in the country.

It then notes that the credit made available for investment and production costs has been a real failure, stressing as a negative factor the reduction in livestock supplies, a trend that has been observed since 1976, accompanied by an increasing participation by agriculture in rural activity.

Finally, CARTEZ states: "The increase in production sought by the authorities should not be a result of greater planting alone, but also (and essentially) of greater and better use of the technological infrastructure consisting of machinery and agrochemicals"; but it advises that this possibility "is directly related to the profitability and future prospects of Argentine farming."

Measures for Mendoza's Agriculture

Board members of the Confederation of Rural Associations of the Third Zone and of the Uco Valley Rural Association prepared a document containing six proposals for the provincial government, in which they comment on "the serious socioeconomic situation facing the Mendoza producers, stemming from debts which will come due, and which are overdue, and suits initiated and under way, on the part of government and private banking and financing entities, and state agencies."

The demands made by both entities are as follows: 1. A bank, fiscal, tax and social security moratorium for a period of 10 years, with a 2-year grace period, without indexing or interest, and freezing debts as of 31 March 1981; b. long-term, low-interest loans to reactivate the productive apparatus; 3. loans for and planning of production, taking into account, essentially, the internal and external demand; search for new markets on which to sell products, so as to avoid the loss of entire crops, with the resultant damage to the producer, the province and the country; 4. updating of the capital assets to their real current value, so as to revise the credit holdings; 5. elimination of taxes on input such as herbicides, pesticides, fertilizer, seed and fuel for agricultural use, and the energy tax; and, 6. revamping of taxes that will facilitate investment.

2909

CSO: 3010/2085

COSTA RICA'S MONGE SCORED FOR CLOSE U.S. RELATIONS

Havana VERDE OLIVO in Spanish 1 Jul 82 pp 14-15

[Article by Elpidio Valdivia: "Ronald Reagan's 'Monk' Is Named Luis Alberto"]

[Text] According to the ASSOCIATED PRESS, Costa Rican President Luis Alberto Monge is the most intensely pro-yankee political figure on the American continent.

That U.S. news agency commented from Washington on Monday, 21 June, that "some people consider Monge the most pro-U.S. civilian leader in Latin America."

The Costa Rican chief of state visited the United States a few days ago and placed the entire operation of his government at the White House's disposal, in exchange for financial assistance which would forestall the economic ruin facing that Central American country.

What other letters of introduction did Monge take along to the U.S. capital in order to achieve his pressing objectives?

In 1963, he was the first Costa Rican ambassador to Israel's Zionist authorities and opened that diplomatic mission in Jerusalem, an event which caused quite an uproar among Arab peoples.

"When a different government changed our embassy to Tel Aviv," he said, "I declared that if my party returned to power, we would move it back to Jerusalem."

Monge expressed agreement last week in Washington with Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin, who addressed the United Nations in an almost empty auditorium, due to the vehement criticism resulting from the recent invasion of Lebanon by his hordes.

That genocidal attack, which has caused the deaths of thousands of Lebanese and Palestinians, led to the UN General Assembly's adoption last Saturday of a resolution "demanding" the immediate withdrawal of the occupying forces.

This political decision of the world organization received the impressive affirmative vote of 127 nations, which were opposed, as before on the Security Council, by the lone dissenting vote of the U.S. Government.

More than one observer noted that this position again demonstrated the treachery of the foreign policy of the United States, which stated several weeks ago in the United Nations that it was opposed to the "methods" used by Argentina to recover the Malvinas Islands and has now vetoed proposals by France and Nonaligned Nations intended to lessen the macabre results of that typical pirate raid.

In a deferential gesture which is very telling, Begin went to Monge's hotel, where they conversed extensively, smiling and toasting glasses of whiskey more than once.

After the visit, the supreme Zionist leader announced that he had invited Monge--whose wife, Doris Yankelewitz, has the same origin and ideas as Begin--to visit Jerusalem and "to address our people and the world from our Knesset (parliament)."

Concerning the Arab world's possible criticism of the Costa Rican president's warm and intimate relations with Tel Aviv, Begin subsequently stated without blushing that "both President Monge and I know that there are things much more important than money," but added that Israel "will make sure" that its loyal friend's reputation is not damaged.

The Central American visitor--determined to get the dollars at any cost--also defended the Reagan administration's support of Great Britain in its colonialist dispute with Argentina.

But Monge went even further and voluntarily proposed helping to rectify the negative effects which that episode has caused between Washington and Latin America.

Listening closely to the U.S. officials who accompanied him, the Costa Rican president rejected outright the proposals of various Latin American chiefs of state concerning the need to reorganize the OAS and the Inter-American Reciprocal Assistance Treaty (TIAR) and to create a regional organization without U.S. participation.

A cable from the Spanish press agency, EFE, stated on Wednesday from the U.S. capital that the Costa Rican Government had become the first "to express understanding of the U.S. position, following several American nations' condemnation of the U.S. position during the Malvinas crisis."

Monge also appeared to disagree with the recent proposal of Panamanian President Aristides Royo--a view shared by other leaders in the region--concerning the possibility of "Latin-Americanizing" the OAS and TIAR.

"I don't see," Monge said, "any possibility of creating a security organization on the continent without the United States," and stated that he fully agreed with Ronald Reagan concerning the need to "reaffirm the OAS and TIAR."

According to an AFP [FRENCH PRESS AGENCY] cable on the same day, the Costa Rican president revealed that then Secretary of State Alexander Haig "told

him of Washington's interest in having Costa Rica help to improve relations with Latin American countries, which had been estranged because of U.S. support for Great Britain in the war with Argentina."

In this regard, the dispatch added, Monge stated that his government could help "by promoting the explanations which the United States proposed to make concerning the very difficult situation which it was in because of its NATO obligations to London."

While the Central American chief executive was saying this, British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher stated in a speech to the United Nations, concerning the future of the Malvinas, that "we recovered a territory which was ours and we will not negotiate for what belongs to us by the dual right of sovereignty and the self-determination of the islanders."

Last Thursday, following an interview which she had with Reagan in the White House, the Iron Lady told journalists that those islands "are and will continue to be British."

However, a cable from the English news agency, REUTERS, reported that the Costa Rican president understands that the U.S. Government, "within an overall strategy, has obligations within the framework of NATO" which justified its support for its principal European ally.

The same source pointed out that accredited Argentine diplomats in Washington appeared "surprised" by Monge's statements concerning the Malvinas.

REUTERS commented that the Central American visitor seemed to also move away from the positions recently upheld by Venezuela, whose ambassador to the White House, Marcial Perez Chiriboga, stated that U.S. relations with Latin America "will suffer long-term damage" if the Reagan administration does not pressure Great Britain to negotiate with Buenos Aires.

To top things off, in a press conference Monge described the Malvinas crisis as "an isolated and circumstantial event" and said that he believed that current U.S. Government leaders "are friends of the democratic struggles in Latin America."

Not satisfied with the solid letters of introduction which gained him access to the White House in his quest for money, this genuine exponent of so-called representative Latin American democracy whispered other credentials of his position in his host's ear.

On 8 February of this year, Monge stated in a press conference--in San Jose--that his government would stay away from the Nonaligned Countries Movement because "they are nations which are aligned with Russia."

Concerning the Socialist International, of which his so-called National Liberation Party is a member, he hastened to say that it "has no obligations as a government, nor is it organically bound to any international organization of parties."

A month later, Monge's political organization refused to sign a Socialist International resolution reiterating its support for the Sandinist government of Nicaragua and the Revolutionary Democratic Front of El Salvador.

In order not to leave any doubts in this regard, during his visit to Washington last week he said that Nicaragua "is aligned with Havana and Moscow" and then--with his mind on the International Monetary Fund--began to attack Cuba.

Monge himself acknowledged on 12 March that Costa Rica's economic situation is "the worst in its history." Costa Rica is a small country of only 2 million inhabitants, but its foreign debt is more than \$4 billion.

Monge subsequently stated that when he would become president--in May--he would have to demonstrate that the democratic system can solve problems of production and reduce poverty and that it is better than the Marxist-Leninist system.

The chief executive's recent visit to the United States is irrefutable proof of the path taken by the new Costa Rican government leaders to keep that promise.

Naturally, Reagan--to whom Congress has just turned over \$600 million for foreign aid--promised Monge the requested assistance and the International Monetary Fund has already announced that an IMF delegation would soon visit San Jose to analyze "the situation which has that country on the verge of bankruptcy."

There is a history of the Latin American lackey on our continent and more than one award-winning novelist in the area has seen fit to include him in the literary labyrinth of his works.

But this character has not been the same all the time. Some have had a certain amount of modesty and have at least taken refuge in jingoistic rhetoric in order to cover their moral nakedness. Others have appeared undisguised, crude and grossly prostrate at the feet of their master, who despises them. This latter stereotype includes the current president of Costa Rica.

As for Ronald Reagan, he now has a special "monk" in the court of his decaying empire.

He is affectionately called Luis Alberto.

11915

CSO: 3010/1998

LATIN AMERICAN NEWSMEN'S MEETING ISSUES FINAL COMMUNIQUE

Havana TRABAJADORES in Spanish 10 Jun 82 p 2

[Article: "At the Seventh Seminar Newsmen Examine the Problems of Latin America and the Caribbean"]

[Text] The participants in the Seventh Seminar of Latin American and Caribbean Newsmen met in the city of Havana, Cuba, from 22 through 31 May 1982 representing news organizations from 22 countries of our America. After analyzing the state of the press and the situation of newsmen in the respective countries, taking cognizance of the progress made and achievements of the Cuban Revolution, and concerned by the grave international situation at present and especially in this part of the world, the newsmen agreed on the following final resolution.

Final Resolution

1. To express our most absolute condemnation of the military and economic aggression perpetrated by Britain in alliance with U.S. imperialism against the fraternal Republic of Argentina and to express to the people and newsmen of the land of San Martin our firmest and most determined solidarity in the conflict of the Malvinas Islands.
2. To condemn the genocide that the Government of El Salvador is perpetrating daily against the people of that country and the interference of the United States in the domestic affairs of that state. Similarly, to express our unity with the Salvadoran newsmen who are confronting the oligarchy and are struggling among the ranks of the people against oppression and in support of freedom. To denounce the crimes perpetrated by the Salvadoran regime against Salvadoran and foreign newsmen fulfilling their task of providing information. Additionally, to demand the release of newsmen who are in jail in Honduras and El Salvador.
3. To denounce the genocide perpetrated by the reactionary military junta of Guatemala against the people of that country, a regime which levels villages and destroys crops and woods. We declare our solidarity with the struggle of the Guatemalan people and newsmen to recover their full freedom.
4. To commend the worthy attitude of Nicaraguan newsmen in defense of the Sandinist revolution in the face of the aggression by U.S. imperialism and to command their active participation in the economic and social transformations now being effected in Nicaragua and their opposition to the diversionist effort of the reactionary press.

5. To support the militant attitude of the newsmen of Grenada in the defense of the triumphant revolution in that fraternal Caribbean nation.
6. To support the declaration of the first conference of newsmen of the Caribbean recently held in Grenada with the participation of 56 newsmen from 22 countries of the region and where the commitment and responsibility of the region's newsmen were evidenced in the supplying of information which explains the problems and aspirations of the Caribbean peoples in their struggle for national liberation and true independence as well as the condemnation of the military and economic manipulations of U.S. imperialism in the Caribbean basin, acts which constitute an insult to the integrity, dignity, and national sovereignty of its peoples.
7. To recognize the efforts to promote an alternative press achieved by the newsmen of Ecuador, Jamaica, Peru, Guyana, and other countries of our continent.
8. To condemn efforts by the United States to annex Puerto Rico and, at the same time, to express our solidarity with the struggle of the Puerto Rican people to achieve their self-determination and independence. To denounce the repressive measures taken against newsmen by the pro-U.S. authorities of that fraternal island.
9. To reject the actions of the Inter-American Press Association (IAPA) in limiting the democratic freedoms of the peoples and in support of the policy of U.S. imperialism on this continent; for its complicity in the repression of newsmen who place their brain power and efforts at the service of the causes of the peoples, in the large-scale dismissal of newsmen, and in punitive action taken by the oligarchies against the organs of the press that defend the interests of the exploited masses.
10. To recognize the Latin American Journalists Federation (FELAP) as the only continental organization representing the democratic aspirations and interests of the newsmen of Latin America and the Caribbean and at the same time to repudiate the diversionist goals of FELATRA and FIAR [Inter-American Federation of Public Relations Associations].
11. To condemn energetically the constant aggression perpetrated by the large transnational news media monopolies against the progressive countries and movements of the world. We come out in favor of the establishment of the New International Informational Order so that it may regulate positively the flow of information and restrict attacks by transnational news agencies.
12. To condemn any form of repression against democratic freedoms and against newsmen perpetrated by the regimes in Bolivia, Uruguay, Chile, Paraguay, Haiti, and elsewhere, and to demand the release of newsmen jailed in those countries.
13. To condemn the economic blockade imposed by U.S. imperialism against Cuba, Grenada, and Nicaragua.
14. To support the just cause of the Panamanian people in favor of their national sovereignty and to back them in their demands for the fulfillment of the Panama Canal agreements signed by Panama and the United States.

15. To evidence our concern over the present tyranny in the development of international relations and over the warlike policy now being promoted and developed by the U.S. Government. Consequently we favor international detente, a halt in the arms race, the signing of agreements limiting the use of nuclear weapons, and the establishment of a durable peace for all the peoples of the world, based on the principles of peaceful coexistence among countries with different social systems.

16. To commend the preparatory committee of the Seventh Summit of Nonaligned Nations now meeting in Havana, Cuba. We place all our hopes in the wish that the organization of nonaligned nations will continue to become stronger on the basis of agreements of mutual respect and nonintervention, as a way to solve international disputes by means of negotiations and dialogue.

17. To take to our respective countries the commitment and spirit of Latin American and Caribbean newsmen to stand by the aspirations, desires, and causes of our peoples, to struggle for the establishment and respect of democratic liberties which make possible the exercise of really free journalism in free countries.

18. To recognize the economic and social achievements of the Cuban revolution under the guidance of its supreme leader, Fidel Castro, and likewise the united spirit of the Cuban people for the peoples who are struggling for their national liberation, independence, and sovereignty.

19. To express our gratitude to the Union of Cuban Journalists (UPEC), the Latin American Journalists Federation (FELAP), and the International Organization of Journalists (IOJ) for the preparation and holding of this seminar, and especially to the UPEC for its effort on behalf of its greater development.

Signed by the newsmen participating in
the Seventh Latin American and Caribbean
Seminar held at UPEC from 22-31 May 1982.

2662

CSO: 3010/1965

REPORTAGE ON CONGOLESE PRESIDENT'S AWARD CEREMONY

Garcia Frias Hails Nguesso

Havana GRANMA in Spanish 12 Jul 82 p 2

[Speech by the Commander of the Revolution, Guillermo Garcia, a member of the Politburo of the party, in a ceremony awarding the Order of Jose Marti to Col Denis Sassou Nguesso, chairman of the Congolese Workers Party and of the People's Republic of the Congo]

[Text] Commander-in-Chief Fidel Castro:

Dear Comrade Denis Sassou Nguesso, chairman of the Central Committee of the Congolese Workers Party, President of the People's Republic of the Congo, chief of state and chairman of the Council of Ministers:

Dear comrades of the Congolese delegation: Ladies and gentlemen:

The directors of our Fatherland and government wish to add tonight to the enthusiastic homage which was paid to you yesterday by the people, the official and revolutionary homage to which you, dear Comrade Nguesso, are deserving and which is expressed in the accord reached by the Council of State through which our most distinguished and esteemed decoration: the Order of Jose Marti is conferred upon you.

We wish you to accept this order as a sign of the spirit of friendship and solidarity which your visit to Cuba brings.

We would like for you to see it as a symbol of the closest revolutionary relations that unite our peoples, parties and governments. Accept it as testimony and, particularly, admiration for the high esteem and sincere recognition that we Cuban revolutionaries, feel for you and for the honorable and meritorious role that you are fulfilling at the head of the Congolese Workers Party, and for the government of your country for the purpose of consolidating and deepening more each day the process of social and political changes and strengthening its socialist, anti-imperialist, popular and democratic guidance.

We now have the path which brought you from a humble peasant beginning and passing through your training as a young official, spurred on by patriotic and

progressive anxieties, up to holding the highest political and state responsibilities in your homeland, becoming a leader capable of filling the painful vacuum left by the assassination of one who was a dominant figure in the Congolese revolution and one of the most unusual personalities of the liberation and emancipation movement of the peoples of Africa: the immortal Marien Ngouabi.

We have now, the equally outstanding place which, under your leadership, the People's Republic of the Congo occupies alongside the other revolutionary and progressive countries in Africa which they changed into a pillar in the struggle against racism, colonialism and neocolonialism by winning real independence and by bringing about an authentic policy of unity and solidarity among all the African peoples.

The revolution has converted the Congo from a former colony, whose destiny was decided in the capitals of Europe, to the bosom of the international community which occupies a prestigious place within the Nonaligned Countries and which does not waiver in acting with determination and valor in the midst of complex circumstances which all humanity faces today, strengthening their relations with the socialist community, with the countries and revolutionary movements, and making the cause of progress, freedom of the peoples and the defense of peace throughout the world theirs.

We should also emphasize at this time the strong bonds of solidarity and collaboration which unite our peoples and revolutions in the Congo and Cuba.

These relations today fill a long, historical period. One can say that the struggle in the Congo for independence was one of the first causes attracting the attention and support of Cuba toward the struggle by her African brothers. Our fatherland is a small and poor country too, one that has had to struggle under difficult conditions in the midst of the unlawful blockade imposed by Yankee imperialism for more than 20 years in order to free its means of livelihood and to develop its modest resources. But the People's Republic of the Congo, its people, its vanguard party have never, nor will they ever, want for the warm and positive backing of their Cuban brothers, nor the will to concentrate all in our power to the consolidation, defense and advance of the Congolese revolution everywhere.

Let me explain, my dear Comrade Nguesso, our assurance that this visit, your meetings with Comrade Fidel, with the leader and people of Cuba will mark a higher stage in the ever-increasing development of the bonds that unite our two countries.

Let me underscore the trust that the People's Republic of the Congo and Cuba will continue building, each time with more vigor, mutual relations that are an inspiring example of respect and revolutionary brotherhood.

Now, more than ever, we, the peoples and revolutionary movements, should close ranks. At a time such as this, when the most aggressive and reactionary tendencies of imperialism are mobilizing and trying to impose themselves on the

peoples all over the world; when in Africa itself, the South African racists are encouraged to commit the most brutal crimes against Angola, Mozambique and other neighboring countries; when the right of independence in Namibia, which was heroically won, is made a laughing stock, and making all peoples on this continent who give an example of sovereignty and steadfastness against oppression step backward; only the closest unity, only the firmest, most valient revolutionary militance, only the strong application of a policy of international solidarity can make us unbending and invincible.

In light of this certainty, it remains for us highly significant to give to you this order which clearly carries the name of the most distinguished of Cuban patriots of the 19th century: Jose Marti. Marti was the man who, generally forging ahead of his time, kept a watch on the surge of Yankee imperialism; he foresaw the dangers of its expansion over the lands in this continent and he worked out a strategy for cutting off what he termed "the turbulent and brutal North which despises us," with a few free Antilles islands. Marti, when speaking of the peoples of our America, said something which we today could apply with complete justification to all the revolutionary and progressive countries of the world: "Peoples who do not know one another should be as eager to know one another as those who are going to fight together."

"The trees should line up in a row so that the giant with seven-league steps cannot get through!" This call by Marti, written now some 90 years ago, still has the same validity as all the other lessons of love of liberty and hatred of imperialism, racism and injustice which he left for our people.

Dear Comrade Nguesso, as the best representative of this legacy by Jose Marti and on behalf of all our people, Comrade Fidel Castro will fulfill the accord of the Council of State and he will place upon you the insignia of this order which is the symbol of the indestructable friendship, solidarity and brothers-in-arms that unite, and will always unite, our two peoples.

Thank you.

Denis Nguesso Responds

Havana GRANMA in Spanish 12 Jul 82 p 2

[Speech given by Col Denis Sassou Nguesso, Chairman of the Congolese Workers Party and the People's Republic of the Congo, during the award ceremony for the Order of "Jose Marti"]

[Text] Comrade Fidel Castro Ruz:

First secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba, chairman of the Council of State and of the Council of Ministers:

Comrade members of the Politburo:

Comrade members of the Council of State:

Comrades and friends:

I am acutely aware at this moment when I receive this important distinction of the honor paid to me and the duty which this honor implies.

Beyond my own personage, this concerns the homage paid to the meritorious efforts of the Congolese people for building a socialist society and for its high sense of proletarian internationalism.

Associated with the name of a great hero, of the name of the man who during his lifetime fought for the liberation of the Cuban people and for that is considered to be the intellectual author of the 26th of July Movement, this high distinction that I have the great pleasure of receiving today contributes a real reason for revolutionary pride and a stimulus for carrying on untiringly the struggle begun against oppression, against poverty and all kinds of domination.

The Congolese people, under the guidance of the Congolese Workers Party and with this priceless proof of solidarity, will thereby know that they are determined to keep the revolutionary flame on high that so many men have known how to keep on high, following the figure of Jose Marti.

At the very time I feel honored in this way, I cannot stop thinking about another hero, of that great man who channeled the energy of the Congolese revolutionaries and who deserved to be connected with this same homage. I speak to you of Marien Ngouabi, who also received the Order of Jose Marti.

The Movement of the Fifth of February gave us decisive victories for the consolidation of the revolutionary process from which we in our country have benefited; it was, moreover, his work and it got all the stimulus of the freedom fighters of the Cuban people of whom he was a great friend.

I would also like to bring up under these circumstances where the mind and the heart are closely associated, the memory of another revolutionary fighter, Comrade Raul Roa Garcia, who has just departed from us and whom we shall always remember as an inextinguishable flame from the Cuban revolution in the international arena.

May the memory of all those who are joined together in this solemn moment serve equally as a comfort to all peoples who struggle against imperialist aggression, because Jose Marti's lesson was a lesson of sacrifice, of self-denial and hope.

Today, more than ever, in this time of deep tensions in which maneuvers by imperialists are being carried out, we have need to keep Jose Marti's spirit on high.

For that reason, we are profoundly thankful that you have given me this high distinction from your country and I express my deep conviction that our similar revolutions, today more than ever, are called upon to carry on the unending fight on the way to the triumph of socialism, peace, justice and liberty.

9908

CSO: 3010/2016

REPORTAGE ON VEIGA'S REMARKS AT UJC EVENT

Havana TRABAJADORES in Spanish 4 Jun 82 p 2

[Report on the remarks made by Roberto Veiga, general secretary of the Central Organization of Cuban Trade Unions [CTC] and alternate member of the Politburo, while summarizing the evaluation of the Fourth Emulation Congress of the Union of Young Communists [UJC]]

[Text] The remarks summarizing the first evaluation of the Fourth Emulation Congress of the UJC that took place at the National CTC concluded with a passionate speech aimed at achieving a complete revamping of socialist emulation activities.

Roberto Veiga, general secretary of the labor organization made a profoundly critical analysis of the formalistic and mechanical tendencies that still obstruct the emulation's development and demanded from the unionist movement a contentious, persevering, active, passionate and creative response to change this situation.

The alternate member of our party's Politburo commenced his speech by acknowledging all that has been achieved during this year's first trimester, when nearly all the labor unions and most of the provinces were credited with having fulfilled their commitment to emulation.

Veiga talked about the favorable results achieved in the basic indicators of economic activity and of a positive trend in the behavior of the labor sector.

He said that the efforts aimed at obtaining substantial savings in equipment and raw materials, especially petroleum, have materialized in quantified and tangible results.

"It is proper to mention the fact," Veiga pointed out, "that these results have been accompanied by an extraordinary effort to try to achieve the inescapable objective of strengthening the country's defense.

"We should call attention to the selfless work done by our construction workers in contributing in a decisive, rapid and efficient manner to the strengthening of our military fortifications."

Maintaining These Achievements During the Second Quarter and During the Rest of the Year Will Not be Easy

After expressing satisfaction over the fulfillment of the technical-economic plan achieved by most of the labor unions, the general secretary of the CTC pointed out that this does not mean that many of them do not have problems.

He referred specifically to the problems that affect the metallurgists' union and to some difficulties that the unions of La Ligera, construction, transportation, chemical, mining and energy, as well as the provinces of La Havana, Holguin, Las Tunas and Ciego de Avila have.

"We know that the problems existing in this and other unions," he pointed out, "are not for the most part the fault of the workers, but we mention them for two essential reasons: first, because to the extent that these problems might be due to subjective reasons that can possibly be overcome, we should struggle to solve them, and second, because in the cases where the objective factors that are causing the problems are resolved, we should increase our efforts to eliminate or soften their effects."

Veiga acknowledged the progress in the quality of medical and hospital services displayed by the emulation, but he warned that there are still units that fail to produce. He also talked about the education unit, which although it fulfills its obligations must nonetheless eradicate the negative factors that hinder the proper functioning of the educational process and the quality of educational services.

Talking about the Commerce and Gastronomy Union, the general secretary of the CTC pointed out that fulfilling the sales plan is not, nor does it have to be, equivalent to good service, and that this is a defect in our emulation in this area.

To conclude his analysis of the results of the emulation during the first trimester. Veiga predicted that to maintain the performance already achieved during the present second trimester, as well as for the remainder of the year, will not be easy and that it will take tremendous effort, great imagination and the need to appeal as forcefully as necessary to our workers' firm resolve to prevail.

There Are Great Difficulties Ahead For Our Country

"The country is having problems," affirmed Veiga. "There are great difficulties ahead of us. This will be a great challenge for our workers, for our unions and for all their leaders."

In this connection, the speaker explained how the price of sugar keeps declining precipitously, which in fact causes the value of our currency to decrease in the capitalistic world market.

Veiga said that this situation, combined with the constant rise in the prices of the products that we have to acquire in that market, increasingly affect

the possibility of acquiring certain raw materials, equipment and replacement parts that are indispensable for our economic plans.

But it is not only that we lack the financial means to assure the technical materialization of our economic plans, added Veiga, describing how on some occasions not even if we have the resources can we get the products we need, because of the tightening of the imperialist blockade against us.

"We are facing a difficult economic situation amidst a complicated and dangerous international situation that also makes us spend to avoid being surprised by any imperialist military aggression."

Cleaning the Cane Fields Is the most Important Job Facing Us Now

The director of the Cuban unions explained that precisely because of this situation we do not have the herbicides we need to carry out the cleaning of the cane fields and we have to resort to doing it manually.

In reference to the need for large-scale mobilizations in all the provinces, "the struggle to clean the sugar cane fields is the most important task we have at the moment," he said.

"If we do not clean the cane fields, our sugar production will obviously be affected during next harvest season, which, added to our pressing economic situation, would bring serious consequences to the country's economy.

"We are sure that we all understand this and, therefore, all of the CTC unions will work to mobilize the necessary workers to get this job done."

To Face the Problems With the Participation of the Masses

Veiga affirmed that the existing problems, especially those in the productive sector, due to lack of equipment, raw materials and spare parts, will have to be faced by appealing continuously for the participation of the masses, fostering the creative initiative of the workers and making an unprecedented effort in the struggle to economize, especially in the use of petroleum and electrical energy.

Veiga expressed his certainty that if a joint effort were made between the National Association of Innovators and Efficiency Experts (ANIR) and the Youth Technical Brigade (BTJ), many of the spare parts that we cannot get today could be made in the country, thus much more would be saved, many ideas would develop and solutions up to now unimaginable would be discovered.

"If we impress on the people the unpostponable necessity of facing these problems, ideas and efforts that would surprise all of us would appear," stressed the leader.

"The situation is difficult," he said, "but it will be more difficult if we do not take the problem to the workers, if we do not offer the possibility

of seeking solutions, and furthermore, if we do not stimulate their creative spirit, the disposition of the workers to solve the problems."

The situation is difficult, he repeated, but "we are not unions corroded by routine and only capable of functioning in a normal situation, we are revolutionary unions, we are the unions of the first socialist country of the American continent, capable of excelling under adverse circumstances and we are sure that we will do our best, that we will respond to this challenge, raising our status and our influence in these difficult moments in which our country demands our best efforts.

Break away from Programs and Routine in Order to Enrich the Emulation

Veiga affirmed that during the next few months the emulating activities will demand a combative, persistent, active, passionate, vehement, creative and imaginative effort. Each union and each province, he added, must think about the manner and style in which it should accept the enormous challenge that is approaching.

"We should take advantage of this opportunity to enrich emulation, its form and its content; to break away from the programs and the rigidity that still exist in this work in order to eradicate certain elements of formality and inattention that have prevailed in the emulation for a long time; we should take advantage of this opportunity to analyze the situation and enrich our work with new contributions and emulative ideas that are taking hold and prospering in some places."

In this regard, the CTC director asked for the development of positive experiences provided by the Model Universities Movement in Santiago de Cuba; the Model Dairy Farm Movement in the agricultural and animal science area, and to study how the end results may prove instructive and motivate the enthusiasm and interest of the workers. "Let us examine the way in which the chemical, mining and energy unions channel the emulation of some of the fundamental enterprises in a concrete way, with the aim of increasing the saving of petroleum. Let us try to take advantage of some special emulations that have been highly positive and that are taking place in the construction union; let us assimilate and perfect the emulations that strive to win the Labor Day Seat in every union; let us bring to life the outstanding movements that have started to take shape in light industry and the transportation sectors; let us make the emulation among labor centers a definitive reality; let us find out why, in Nicaro and in Moa and some other places, this is an initiative that promotes the interest and the efforts of the workers; let us analyze why this does not happen in other places.

"Let us declare war on formal checks," pleaded Veiga. "Let us revive the solemnity required by the presentation ceremonies of the emulation incentives, in particular the banner of the Heroes of Moncada; let us examine the paradoxical fact that prevails when the banner of the Heroes of Moncada is presented at the factory level, which brings about the existence of important union sections where the banner is not given while at the same time it is

presented to less important ones because of a different idea of what an emulation unit is; finally, let us have a total revamping of our emulative work."

To Reach Higher Levels in the Sugar Harvest Emulation

In his speech for the betterment of socialist emulation in our country, Veiga mentioned in particular the emulative movement as it pertains to the sugar industry.

He called for the suppression of the mechanization tendencies in the sugar harvest special emulation and in particular in the industrial aspects, that threaten to contaminate it; for the enrichment of the millionaire movement in the sugar cane agriculture and the increased attention to the emulative work among the cultivators.

Veiga talked about the need to apply initiatives that, in the framework of emulation contribute to improvement of the agricultural yield in the sugar fields, and demanded more vigor in emulation among operators.

In the same way, he advocated the further enrichment of the millionaire movement and the stimulation of the municipalities and provinces to convert to millions all their harvest forces.

The top director of the CTC asked for reflection and action to reach higher levels of quality in the special emulation of the sugar harvest.

Returning to his critical analysis of emulation in general, Veiga called attention to the way in which the checks, including the one at the national level, are carried out, in an attempt to awake more interest, more enthusiasm, and to form a more direct link with the workers.

He also referred to the necessity for emulation to favor a widening participation of the young people in the union activities in order to channel their enthusiasm and strength and to support all the economic initiatives that arise from them.

Finally, Veiga called for a struggle to permit these renovation ideas to begin to spread their influence as soon as possible and to manifest themselves in more significant and relevant results in the grandiose tasks that the labor union movement should undertake as a salute to the new anniversary of the 26th of July.

9907

CSO: 3010/1961

JAMAICA SEEN NOT BENEFITING FROM U.S. TIES

Havana JUVENTUD REBELDE in Spanish 8 Jul 82 p 3

[Article by Juan Martin la Rotta: "Jamaica, Showcase That Did Not Become a Showcase"]

[Text] With the arrival of Edward Seaga to power in November 1980, the big destabilization campaign orchestrated by the United States against the government of Michael Manley came to its end and Jamaica began to be called the showcase of democracy and rapid economic development in comparison with the rest of the Caribbean nations.

The administration of Ronald Reagan was the inspiration and Edward Seaga its executor. Hard times would be gone since the State Department's plans would open all doors for the supposed development of Jamaica.

Nevertheless, after 20 months gestation of the Seaga regime, the nation is struggling under what is assessed as the greatest economic crisis of its history.

On the island of the Greater Antilles with close to 2 million inhabitants, the corps of unemployed exceeds 350,000 people among the population economically active, without counting the tens of thousands that are struggling in ranks of the underemployed.

The multinational mining enterprises that develop bauxite and alumina have considerably reduced their production in recent months, citing the dizzying drop in prices which has also motivated the dismissal of hundreds of workers.

The situation of the two basic products of the nation, sugar and bananas, further complicates the acute economic crisis, showing a rapid decline of the candy industry and the lowering of production and quality of the latter item which lost Jamaica her principal client, Great Britain.

Moreover, the Seaga government maintains the so-called liberalization of imports centered basically on luxury products while closing to the national productive sectors all possibility of obtaining the necessary means to finance industry, which is functioning at only 40 percent of its actual capacity.

With regard to this dramatic scenario the Association of Manufacturers questioned government policy on the "considerable losses" that affect the whole productive sector of the Caribbean nation.

The amount of external debt is close to \$1.5 billion in spite of the significant aid given by the White House and the International Bank with the objective of making Jamaica the most solvent nation in the area.

To emphasize that, during the recent visit to Washington, Prime Minister Seaga obtained an additional \$500 million as part of the Yankee assistance to mitigate the crisis, an amount that was later augmented by Margaret Thatcher on the visit to Great Britain by the Jamaican Prime Minister.

From these meetings, the idea also came up to create the so-called security pact, negotiated with the evident aim of preventing in Jamaica what is called the imminent danger of communism.

For that purpose, Seaga augmented considerably the military budget with the goal of increasing the number of forces in the repressive corps, expenses that, of course, aggravate even more the acute economic crisis.

To these steps are added the contribution of military aid from the administrations of the United States and Great Britain who coequally are headed toward creating a new focus of tension in the Caribbean.

It may suffice to recall the words of U.S. Admiral Robert McKenzie, commander of the "Ocean Adventure-82" maneuvers, who stated that the "Caribbean Sea is vital to United States interests" and--consequently and shamefully--declared that nation was ready to defend the area from whatever communist threat.

Naturally McKenzie repressed the dramatic situation under which the Jamaican people live. They see themselves forced to tighten the belt more each time for the hunger and misery which come with the acute and successive economic disasters.

That is the politics of imperialism. They do not give a damn about the serious problems that confront the majority of the Caribbean nations that are collapsing in the endemic underdevelopment that they endure; on the contrary, they exploit docile partners, such as Seaga, who transform schools into barracks and submerge the country in bankruptcy.

9989

CSO: 3010/2017

HAVANA SCORES SOUTH AFRICAN, U.S. ACTIONS IN ANGOLA

PA 191636 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 18 Aug 82

["World Events" commentary]

[Text] The situation in southern Africa has become extremely dangerous. Everything indicates that South Africa, encouraged by the United States, has undertaken an important military campaign against Angola.

Accoridng to the latest reports, Pretoria's army continues to be very active in Cunene Province, on the border with Namibia, with the evident objective of breaking down Angola's lines of defense and expanding its occupation of that territory. In this way, the racist Pretoria regime is carrying out the U.S. orders to apply military pressure on Angola, to force it to come to an agreement on the problem of Namibia, which, at the same time, includes the withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angolan territory.

This was made much more evident immediately after the Luanda Government's firm and repeated rejections of such proposals. Since then, the South African occupation troops and the internal counterrevolutionary groups have increased their actions, including air and ground attacks on Namibian refugee camps and Angolan towns. At the same time, attacks on Angolan military positions have been intensified.

It is believed that these enemy actions are intended to force Angola to dedicate its efforts and resources to defense, as well as to destabilize the government and to provoke, either in the short or long term, a change in the independent path chosen by the popular liberation movement of Angolan-Party of Labor.

At the same time, these actions indicate that the United States and South Africa plan to stage an important action in compensation for the defeats sustained in the uprisings in (Kisvangondo) and (Kevec) in 1975, when Angolan soldiers and Cuban internationalist fighters frustrated their desire to prevent independence.

To all of this must now be added the scandal in Portugal resulting from the publication of secret documents that disclose new and compromising maneuvers, confirming that a vast plot against Angola has been prepared in that European country. The Lisbon weekly EXPRESSO said last week that the authenticity of the documents revealing those plans has been confirmed, adding that its reporters witnessed the movements carried out in Lisbon by the organizers of an attack on Angola. The publication reported that a minister in the current Portuguese Government has confirmed the existence of a plan to implement the so-called

(Cubango) operation, prepared with financial and military support from South Africa, in which Portuguese and South African mercenaries and Cuban terrorists living in the United States will be used. In its new disclosures, the Portuguese weekly EXPRESSO gives more details of the meeting that was held in Lisbon by (Fernando Simoens), former commando in the Portuguese Colonial Army; and South African (Gary Van Dyke), an agent for Pretoria's secret service; and (Jacobo Low), a South African diplomat in Lisbon. Angola (Victor Fernandez), a well-known international adventurer who has lived in Lisbon for many years, also participated in that meeting. (Fernandez) also met in Pretoria with (Jack Rawlings), chief of the Pretoria regime's secret services, who offered all of his political and military support to the (Cubango) operation. Although the primary center for these plotters is Lisbon, they also met in London, where they signed a so-called declaration of war in which they state that South Africa has given the plan initial aid amounting to \$5 million, along with the immediate recruitment of 2,000 men in Portugal and the United States.

The document published by EXPRESSO also involves the governments of Gabon and Zaire in these actions. It states that Cambridge International, a South African company, is in charge of recruiting Portuguese mercenaries, while notorious CIA agent Frank Sturgis, involved in the Watergate case, has participated in the recruitment of Cuban terrorists living in the United States.

As can be seen, Washington and Pretoria continue to use war in southern Africa instead of seeking a negotiated solution to the tense situation that they have created in the region. In this way, they seek what they have been unable to achieve to date: to eliminate the future independence of Namibia and to overthrow the legitimate government in Luanda.

CSO: 3010/2140

ERA DEFEAT, WOMEN'S POSITION IN U.S. DESCRIBED

Havana GRANMA in Spanish 9 Jul 82 p 5

[Article by Oscar Ferrer: "The Woman in the United States--the Doors Stay Shut to Her Rights"]

[Text] The American Constitution will continue discriminating against women. On 30 June the time limit expired for the ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment for women in the United States.

Two assessments can be presented immediately. First, in that country there continue to exist reactionary forces in congressional and management circles who persist in maintaining the female part of the American population at a disadvantage with respect to men. Second, in the nation that endeavors to present itself to the world as an example and model to follow, the Constitution does not recognize the equal rights of women.

After 10 years of popular struggle for its ratification, the amendment hit huge opposition, especially from President Reagan, the Republican Party, conservatives and ultraconservatives, from management and business circles that benefit economically from the discrimination against women, especially concerning wages, and from religious groups of the most reactionary social ideas.

For a decade, the American women's movement has battled to attain ratification of an amendment to the Constitution of the United States that would guarantee equal rights for representatives of both sexes.

The constitutional amendment known by the letters ERA (Equal Rights Amendment) was introduced 59 years ago and approved by the U.S. Congress in 1972 under pressure from broad social sectors of the country.

Nevertheless, the amendment required for its final passage that it be ratified by two-thirds of the states (38). The amendment consists of a paragraph of 24 words that state a guarantee of the equality of rights and responsibilities of both sexes.

During the 7 years that comprised the first time limit for its ratification, the amendment was approved by 35 states. In 1979, due to the lack of approval of three states, circles supporting the amendment succeeded in getting

Congress to grant a new time limit, this one for 3 years that expired on the 30th.

In the last year and a half, in spite of opposition from the Reagan administration, the supporters of the amendment have been gaining ground.

According to a survey of opinion made last January, 61 percent of the U.S. population are in favor of the amendment. Besides, it is counting on the aid of 450 social organizations in the country that comprise 50 million people.

The supporters of the ERA state that in reality in the United States there still exists discrimination against the female population in area of wages and political, working and social concerns. In addition, if the woman is black, the situation is even more serious.

Discrimination in wages is perhaps the most scandalous manifestation of inequality of which the American woman is victim.

Women workers in the United States receive only--according to various studies published last September in Houston--60 cents for each dollar earned by a man in the country for equal labor.

The National Organization of Women (NOW), the women's main organization in the United States affirmed that today female university graduates in the United States earn on the average what men earn with an eighth-grade education.

In the political sphere, it is conspicuous that only 4 percent of the elected posts in the country are filled by women.

In the last months, tens of thousands of American women have carried out huge demonstrations and parades, collected signatures, participated in protests of many kinds--such as, the hunger strike in front of the Springfield, Illinois, Capitol--have had altercations with the police and have chained themselves together publicly.

Last 30 June--the date of expiration for ratification--thousands of people protested across from the White House against the legislators who sabotaged passage of the amendment.

There they condemned the intolerable antifeminist attitude of the Republican Party and announced a political campaign against congressmen of that party and an economic campaign against management and business circles that defend discrimination because they benefit by paying lower wages to women.

The supporters of the amendment have not given up in defeat and have already announced that they will introduce it again in Congress on the 14th. The battle for equality of rights for women in the United States did not end with the 30 June expiration date.

9989

CSO: 3010/2017

GENERAL SIXTO BATISTA AT YOUTH ISLE MILITARY CEREMONY

Havana JUVENTUD REBELDE in Spanish 15 Jun 82 p 2

[Article by Juana Maria V. Sol]

[Text] The expression recently launched by Division General Sixto Batista Santana at the 20-year celebration of the Isle of Youth military region, to convert this piece of Cuban land into a cemetery for the imperialist enemy, seems to have been born in the determined attitude and spirit of the first group of soldiers who arrived in the zone upon the triumph of the revolution.

Two decades later, the military region is capable of repelling any aggression. The possibility of a confrontation with the enemy from an isolated and dominant position on the western arc of the country contributed toward forging at the most difficult moments a firm spirit of resistance and the unyielding will to make of this territory an impregnable bastion of defense.

The arrival of Fidel in 1959, shortly after the victory of the revolution, with agrarian reform, proscribing the Cuban and foreign large landed estate, as well as the eradication of the free zone, finally finished with the expansionist aspirations of the Yankees, who were abandoning the island.

When this happened, it was still the forgotten land to the servile rulers of the pseudo-republic, without resources and with a small native population. However, it was given first priority among the objectives of the enemy's plans for aggression.

A founder of the military region, Capt Jesus Echevarria Ramos, a member of the rebel army, still remembers it: "Lacking social organization, very poor, with only two roads and a few schools, a picturesque park and nothing else."

Captain Echevarria was an eye witness of a scene in which the commander in chief said to Cdr Alfonso Zayas, who was one of the first military chiefs on this island, "The army here can already feel proud of having done its first project for the revolution."

Fidel was referring to the reforestation that the military command started in various parts of the area.

Since then, the members of the military region have participated in each and every one of the great tasks initiated to build the foundation of socio-economic development on the island.

They were the builders of the towns America Libre [Free America] and Atanalgildo Cagigal for the isle's farmers and workers.

At the same time, they were strengthening defensive positions through the constant and energetic battle preparation of their troops and the specialized training of each one of their chiefs, officers and soldiers.

Now there is a lot to defend: large and valuable citrus plantations, hundreds of schools, resources being cultivated and an educated and revolutionary citizenry, bound to the mother island by strong feelings of patriotism.

The operative skill of this army depends in large measure on today's military preparation, and this awareness has been earned during grueling days devoted to the knowledge and learning of the military art. This has made it possible for them [the soldiers] to systematically receive high qualifications in their drills and training.

The youth of the General Military Service, many of whom earned their membership in the UJC [Union of Young Communists] through their exemplary attitude and ideological and moral preparation, have received special attention by the party organizations and command.

In this task of the complete education of the young soldiers, the grassroots organizations of the UJC took on a considerable portion of the responsibility in their ideological and political preparation.

Because of this complete education, many youths have a splendid record of service given to the revolutionary cause: internationalist missions, outstanding performance in battle and an excellent defense training.

This is helped by the improvement in living conditions, as well as the establishment of a real foundation of studies and the carrying out of military drills in accordance with the demands of the present.

All of this: men, technology, arms and a material foundation have made of the Isle of Youth a secure outpost of the FAR's [Revolutionary Armed Forces] and of every soldier a skillful defender of the conquests of the socialist society.

9545

CSO: 3010/1860

U.S. CRITICIZED FOR INDIAN OCEAN MILITARY PRESENCE

Havana VERDE OLIVO in Spanish 1 Jul 82 pp 16-17

/Commentary by Armando Lopez Rivera: "What Washington Seeks in the Indian Ocean"7

[Text] Weinberger, the head of the Pentagon, described "direct confrontation" between the United States and the Soviet Union on a global and regional scale as the military strategy for the 1980's. According to the U.S. general, this concept expresses the Reagan administration's view concerning the "need to protect the interests of the United States far from its shores" and derives from the "growing Soviet military threat."

"The United States," Weinberger stated, "must be prepared to sustain any type of war in any region vital to our interests."

Such "strategy" advocates expansion of the U.S. military presence in practically all areas and seas of the world. The United States presently has 1,500 bases and installations in 32 countries and regular personnel abroad exceeds a half million.

Actually, neither the "strategy" nor the pretext are new. To mention just one example, there is the militarization of the Indian Ocean.

The United States has declared the Indian Ocean a zone of its "vital interests" and U.S. ships have been patrolling those waters regularly since the 1960's. Like a fig leaf for hiding its shamelessness, it uses the "myth" of a Soviet naval presence.

However, it isn't succeeding in fooling anyone. The USSR does not threaten any people, nor does it have military bases in the region.

U.S. interests, however, are rapidly improving. The Indian Ocean is a strategic geographic area with five straits and various shipping routes connecting Europe, the Middle East, Australia, the Far East and Africa. This region has exceptional mineral resources: 65 percent of the capitalist world's known oil and uranium reserves and half the gold reserves. The countries of the Indian Ocean basin--more than 40 coastal, insular and continental states where about one-third of humanity lives--are the main suppliers of diamonds, tin, rubber, tea, spices and other valuable raw materials to the West.

These are some of the real reasons why imperialist forces have turned the Indian Ocean into a dangerous source of tension.

It is not surprising that both Carter and Reagan declared the Persian Gulf a zone of "vital interest" to the United States.

The general secretary of NATO, Gen Joseph Luns, also stated in late 1980 that "the raw materials of southern Africa--including those of South Africa--are as important as Persian Gulf oil to European economies. Aside from oil, other products and raw materials: chromium, vanadium, manganese, uranium ... are vital for Europe."

On the basis of these "interests," the United States has created an entire system of military, air and naval bases which cover the Indian Ocean in a broad arc: from the coast of Australia to the Arabian Sea and southern Africa.

It controls the straits and accesses to the Indian Ocean. It has established military bases at Berbera (Somalia), Mombasa and Nanyuki (Kenya), on Masira Island, at Seeba and Mascate (Oman), Ras Banas (Egypt), Bahrain, which are used to keep watch over the Strait of Hormuz and the region's oil-producing countries. These bases maintain contact with U.S. reconnaissance aircraft (AWACS) based in Saudi Arabia, French naval, air and ground forces in Djibouti and Mayotte, and British forces in the area.

Pretoria's fascist regime has been assigned the mission of monitoring shipping routes in the extreme southern part of Africa from the bases at Simonstown (South Africa) and Walvis Bay (Namibia).

Australia provides installations on Cockburn Sound and at other locations in its territory. The existence of a secret U.S. base is known in the Pine Cape region, where CIA specialists compile data retransmitted by satellite and convey orders to U.S. submarines cruising the Indian Ocean and Arabian Sea. Singapore, at the eastern entrance to the Indian Ocean, also supports the U.S. naval presence by granting use of all facilities to U.S. ships.

The main base of support for U.S. strategy in the region is the naval air base on the island of Diego Garcia, 2,400 km south of the Persian Gulf. Great Britain took this island from its former colony of Mauritius and turned it over to the United States in 1966.

Since then, coastal security and maintenance systems have continually been constructed and expanded for navy vessels, including aircraft carriers and submarines equipped with nuclear missiles, runways for strategic aircraft and "B-52" bombers. Ports have been deepened and runways have been improved so that all types of aircraft can take off and land. Silos for nuclear missiles and fuel and lubricant depots have also been built.

Diego Garcia has an enormous arsenal and a garrison of nearly 900 men. Freighters loaded with tanks, guns, munitions, fuel and provisions have docked at the island to supply the "rapid-intervention forces," which, according to Washington's plans, will be moved to zones of conflict where its "vital interests" are

threatened. Located in the very center of the Indian Ocean, a warship can sail from this island to the territorial waters of practically any coastal country in less than 2 days.

Washington is using the largest U.S. fleet deployed in this region since the time of World War II as a specific instrument of "gunboat" diplomacy. Leading the U.S. fleet in the Indian Ocean--a fleet comprising 40-50 ships--are the "Constellation," "Enterprise" and "Kitty Hawk" aircraft carriers.

According to the journal TIEMPOS NUEVOS, the United States has reinforced its positions in the northwestern part of the Indian Ocean, but this has not satisfied its appetite. Washington wants to extend its influence to the south of the African continent and the adjacent islands.

Its plans clash with the firm determination of the region's independent states, which refuse to be swept into the orbit of imperialism.

Washington will stop at nothing to destabilize and eliminate governments which oppose its plans for absolute control and militarization of the Indian Ocean basin. It resorts to using every means: economic boycott, intimidation, subversion, political conspiracy and assassination.

It therefore relies on the services of the South African racists and mercenary gangs, to whom the dirtiest missions are assigned.

The CIA and South African secret services organized the abortive mercenary attack on the Seychelles Islands late last November.

What were the reasons for the aggression? Albert Rene's government had stated that it was resolutely in favor of Namibian independence and the elimination of apartheid in South Africa. Thus, as the ASSOCIATED PRESS stated, it is not surprising that Pretoria wants a "friendlier" government in the Seychelles.

Nor are the Pentagon generals pleased that the Seychelles oppose the U.S. military presence in the Indian Ocean and condemn the transformation of Diego Garcia into a dangerous military enclave. Even more irritating to them is the country's refusal to allow ships with cargo destined for Diego Garcia, or returning from the enclave, to use its ports.

The attack on the Seychelles recalls the 1978 aggression against the Comoro Islands and the overthrow of its legitimate government. On that occasion as well, mercenary forces acted on Pretoria's orders and were paid with money from the CIA.

Mozambique and Madagascar did not escape the aggressive plans of U.S. and South African secret services. Mozambique has been the target of Pretoria's destabilizing plans for some time. Spies, saboteurs and counterrevolutionary gangs trained by the racist regime have infiltrated the country. The latter operate in Mozambique under the name of the National Resistance Movement.

A subversive attempt was thwarted in Madagascar in late January, whose plans included the assassination of President Didier Ratsiraka.

It is obvious that the basic cause of tensions in the Indian Ocean derives from U.S. plans for absolute supremacy, its aggressive foreign policy and strategy of "direct confrontation," which stipulates using its military power as a means of global and regional force to protect its "vital interests," including access to sources of strategic raw materials and energy resources in different parts of the world.

Humanity is striving to make the Indian Ocean a permanent zone of peace, but these aims clash with U.S. "interests," plans and strategies.

UN Resolution 2832 of 16 December 1971 advocates maintaining the Indian Ocean as a zone of peace and dismantling the military bases and nuclear weapons installed in the region. This proposal has been approved and ratified in different international forums, by the Movement of Nonaligned Countries, the OAU, the socialist community and other progressive forces.

In the recent ministerial meeting of the Nonaligned Countries Coordination Bureau in Havana, the concern expressed in the Sixth Summit was reiterated, concerning the dangerous existing tension in the zone as a result of the expansion of foreign bases, military installations, installations for logistic support, deployment of nuclear weapons and weapons of mass destruction, and the quest for new installations for bases.

Such expressions constitute a total rejection of the dangerous U.S. military policy, its bellicose and expansionist aims and its plans for global and regional supremacy.

11915

CSO: 3010/1998

FAR FLOOD RESCUE OPERATIONS IN HAVANA DESCRIBED

Havana VERDE OLIVO in Spanish 1 Jul 82 pp 8-11

[Article by Ramon Garcia Martinez]

[Text] During the aid and rescue operations carried out in our capital in connection with the recent flooding, many BRDM-2 amphibious carrier crews, belonging to Western Army units, played a decisive role in their efficient and timely intervention.

The rapid mobilization of such equipment to key areas of Havana hardest hit by the floods and the enormous, selfless task of evacuating people to safe locations, which was carried out by their crews, helped to save hundreds of our people's lives.

Many people, mainly residents of low-lying areas in some districts and municipalities, were forced to climb onto roofs, trees and other high places for safety when they became aware of the serious situation caused by rivers overflowing their banks.

Despite their temporary shelter, the rain continued to fall, hours passed and the water rose even higher. They ran the risk of being swept away by the terrific currents and drowning.

As soon as the alarm was sounded, the first amphibious carriers of the FAR [Revolutionary Armed Forces] moved out for those locations as fast as possible and their crews, composed of SMG [General Military Service] officers and young men, immediately began to carry out the rescue operations under very difficult conditions.

On the way to the flooded areas, amphibious carrier drivers demonstrated their competence, skills and high-spirited morale in the face of all adversities.

As we were told by Lt Col Justo Onate Mecia, who commanded a detachment of amphibious vehicles and directed the rescue and evacuation operations in the Concha and Luyano area, "without the high-spirited political morale and communist attitude of the participating comrades, it would have been impossible to carry out this mission successfully under such difficult and complex conditions as those we faced."

Besides these qualities inherent in each crew member, there were other factors which contributed to the efficient implementation of this operation: the highly technical features of the vehicles.

On a later visit to various units, we learned about some of the stories and experiences of participants in this honorable and humanitarian mission, which they were assigned by the FAR and the Revolution.

Justo Tells of his Experiences

When we arrived at his unit, we found Lt Col Justo Onate together with his subordinates, busy at the hard job of technical maintenance. We then started our discussion and listened to his account:

"At about 3 or 4 in the morning, we received orders to leave for the disaster areas. I moved out at the head of the first two amphibious carriers. When we went by the Ring of the Eight Roads, we had to go around and make a detour for about 300 meters because a landslide had occurred there.

"When we reached Luyano, after overcoming many obstacles, it was still dark. Then we began to hear people yelling for help. We started rescuing people on top of roofs, trucks, railroad cars, trees, etc. We first rescued 10 to 12 people, mainly children, women and old people, and moved them to the Civil Defense command post in the town, about 800 to 1,000 meters from there. We then moved groups of up to 20 citizens several times.

"One of the stories which we could tell concerns two old men who had climbed onto the roof of a house. When we approached to rescue them, our vehicle stalled in the middle of a strong current. Without knowing what had happened, we began to maneuver until we regained power. Then we realized that the vehicle had gotten caught over a railroad car on the line.

"In that area, we rescued from 150 to 200 people in about 3 hours. It was really very difficult to maneuver the carriers there, because the houses were wooden and the force of the current tended to push us against them, and we had to fight tooth and nail not to demolish them.

"We stayed there until 10 am. Then we moved out in the direction of the Bacuranao dam to rescue a family that had been cut off. We moved them to a safe place, despite the force of the current, which made it very difficult for us to approach."

We Faced Many Problems but Overcame Them

The second detachment, under the command of Capt Barbaro Marmol, moved out with the mission of reaching Guanabacoa.

When they were about 100 meters from the road joining Guanabacoa with Santa Fe, they heard a loud noise similar to that of a waterfall. The crew leader ordered the driver to stop the engine in order to explore the site. They advanced some 20 or 30 meters and realized that the water was flowing over the railing of the bridge. It was then that they decided to take a different

route and follow Monumental until reaching the Cojimar rotunda. When they reached the junction of the Cojimar road, they found four comrades whose car had been covered by the water and they were cut off. They were the administrator of the Nico Lopez refinery, the energy chief, the chief of supply and another comrade. They were rescued and taken to the refinery, since their presence at their place of work was essential at such a critical time.

"When we reached Guanabacoa," Capt Barbaro Marmol told us, "we headed for the Villa Maria district to evacuate a family that was in danger. Near the site, there was a BTR [expansion unknown] from another unit, which had been swept away by the current when attempting to rescue the family. Analyzing the experience of the previous vehicle, which entered the current at a right angle, we decided to find a way to overcome the current, so after 200 meters we cut to the right and started to navigate against the avalanche of water until we reached the house. After we rescued this family and moved them to a safe place, we went back and towed the BTR out of there.

"Later we rescued 14 people who were on top of a bus at Alamar and Monumental roads. When we started in that direction, going through the Guiteras district, there was a family on the roof of a house. We moved in that direction and the current caught us and pushed us against a high-voltage light post.

"The violent impact caused the post to start throwing off sparks. We managed to get away from it and, with a great deal of difficulty, we were able to reach the house and rescue the people, including an old man with his leg in a cast.

"Then we went to Bacuranao to rescue a family that was surrounded by the river and the dam. There were 15 people, 5 children and 10 adults. We had great difficulty approaching, since we inadvertently got caught in a huge whirlpool and started spinning around. I ordered the driver to shut off the engine and that is how we got free. We let ourselves be carried by the current and restarted the engine, managing to regain control of the situation. But we still couldn't get close to the house. We evacuated the family with ropes and life preservers, and then took them in the carrier to a safe place."

Experience for a Young Officer

Lt Jorge Luis Vega Zapata, a young officer in the special exploration division, also distinguished himself during the rescue missions in the Guanabo area.

"We participated in the rescue of people residing on the banks of the Guanabo River. I stayed in that area for several hours. From one building alone, we evacuated 40 people, including 15 children and a pregnant lady. We also rescued a whole family on the roof of their house. The water was already almost up to their feet when we arrived. Between the two amphibious vehicles, we managed to rescue more than 200 people.

"Our most difficult and risky situation occurred when we went to cross over to the pioneers' camp. The rising Guanabo River there swept us away and pushed us against the trees. We were able to get out of this serious predicament

gracefully as a result of the experience and skill of our driver, Private Lause Diaz, who demonstrated expert dexterity in handling the vehicle, maneuvering it out of that dangerous spot.

"As a young officer, I consider this to be one of the most important and significant practical experiences in my life, inasmuch as I had the opportunity to feel and experience human solidarity under adverse conditions."

No Comparison with this Experience

Private Antonio Aguilar Vazquez, 21 years old and in the FAR for almost 3 years, is considered one of the best drivers not only in his unit, but in the entire army.

The practical experience acquired by this young man enabled him to successfully overcome many obstacles and dangers during his unit's journey through the disaster area.

"This is the second mission of this type which I have carried out," he told us. "When hurricane Frederic struck, I also contributed as an amphibious vehicle driver in the evacuation of families in the area of Four Roads and Lenin Park. But there is no comparison with this experience. I believe that this was the most dangerous, difficult and hardest mission which has been assigned to me.

"Because of the strong currents, the large whirlpools and the torrent of water which descended as though it were a swollen arm of the sea, I had to use all my willpower, capabilities and experience to emerge victorious from this trial."

The amphibious vehicle carrying Private Aguilar rescued more than 150 people in the areas of Luyano, Campo Florido, Guanabo and Bacuranao.

First Trial by Fire

Among the members of amphibious vehicle detachments, Private Ramon Garcia Mora exhibited outstanding conduct in performing his duty. Garcia is presently 20 years old and was called on to serve in the FAR in the 17th SMG call. Before that, as a prerecruit, he qualified as a driver through a course given by SEPMI [Society for Patriotic-Military Education]. He told us:

"When I arrived at Luyano and saw that things were so serious, I became tense and concentrated on being as calm as possible. This was my first trial by fire. Dynamism and equanimity were very valuable to us. Thus between Private Roberto Aborachea and myself, we rescued about 75 people who were in danger of drowning.

"Our most difficult time," he added, "was when we were trapped against the roof of a house for an hour and a half. The rear part of the vehicle had broken off a piece of the roof, which got caught in the vehicle's exhaust pipe.

"My comrade and myself meanwhile started removing wooden planks and beams and by maneuvering carefully, we were able to get away and cross the river's current and rescue the people."

Rescue at All Cost

Another outstanding crew was that of the amphibious vehicle manned by Third Sergeant Ramon Alberich and Private Juan Carlos Caraballo. They managed to rescue comrade Irma Sanchez, the wife of First Lt Raul Almanza of the border guard service, who disappeared after being swept away by the current in Guanabo.

With her son of only 22 months, Irma was cut off. The water was already up to the first floor of the house and the situation made it very difficult to get close.

"When our amphibious carrier was moving through an area of Guanabo, we learned from a grocery store that this isolated comrade was located down the street, therefore it was necessary to rescue her quickly, since the water level was still rising," Alberich said and added:

"We moved toward the site and in order to reach the house we had to destroy one nearby with the vehicle's backwash. In getting away, the current complicated our advance because of the force with which it was flowing at that place.

"Among the dozens of people we evacuated to safety was an old woman 99 years old."

Fidel's Visit: A Great Encouragement

After several hours of fatiguing efforts and tense moments resulting from the damage caused by the torrential rains and flooding rivers, Lt Julian Rivero, the leader of a detachment of amphibious vehicles, received a surprising and agreeable visit. In the blink of an eye, he was standing before our commander in chief, who was traveling through the most heavily hit areas.

The young officer explained that he had the opportunity to speak very briefly with the leader of the Revolution.

"This was a great encouragement and honor for us," he said. "At every moment, Fidel was concerned about what had happened in the disaster area and about the safety of our people.

"We were at Bacuranao dam when the commander in chief arrived at about 7 am. He questioned several of us present there, mainly concerning the condition and safety of the dam at that time.

"He asked me how much the dam's flood level had risen. He was also interested in possible locations, besides the spillway, which could be adapted to help in draining the dam's reservoir more rapidly, etc.

"In short, that conversation was an unforgettable experience and a lesson for all of us. Once again, our commander in chief was there when the situation required his presence, just as at Giron, the October Crisis, hurricane Flora and, more recently, during the flooding of Pinar del Rio."

11915

CSO: 3010/1998

REPORTAGE OF HAVANA REBUILDING SINCE FLOODS

Havana JUVENTUD REBELDE in Spanish 25 Jun 82 p 1

[Article by Dulce Maria Hernandez and Aldo Madruga]

[Text] "The mechanisms that allow us to attend to the repairs of homes through state enterprises, local forces, the tenants themselves, and the masses have been set up." This was stated at a working meeting of the committee helping the [flood] victims and assisting in reconstruction, chaired by Julio Camacho Aguilera, member of the politburo and first party secretary of the city of Havana.

For over 2 hours at the seat of the party's provincial committee the representatives of the state's national organs, of the executive, and leaders of Havana Province gave a detailed report on specific measures and solutions being applied to meet the damage caused by the recent floods.

So far a tally shows more than 1,000 homes destroyed and 2,664 damaged in the capital. The effort to remedy this situation was highlighted. To that end, more than about 250 to 300 new homes will be completed before 26 July and in addition the intensive construction plan to make progress with the rest will be continued.

For this purpose specialists in physical planning, in the microlocalization of areas to be used in new construction, are working actively. All this indicates that the conditions to perform these tasks have been created despite the country's limitations.

According to what was planned, the sale of building materials to other users will be frozen in order to give priority to those most in need of them while the most critical situation is represented by the shortage of wood. However, appropriate solutions are being sought so that the progress of the work may not be stymied.

Domestic Needs

Regarding the other needs of a domestic nature such as food, clothing, mattresses, and other items, it was mentioned that the affected families have just received a quantity of supplies for which appropriate commercial networks are available. In addition, other mechanisms make it possible for them to

acquire things. There are material difficulties in securing bed accessories some of which have been delivered as were pillows and children's mattresses.

Domestic electric appliances such as refrigerators, washing machines, and radios already have a specific place where they are sold to the inhabitants to the extent possible. Also under discussion are the figures relating to furniture, eating implements, cupboards, and kitchens.

The effort of a provincial brigade made up of technicians who assist in the repair of recuperable equipment in areas of Guanabo and Boca Ciega was stressed. This group repairs, dispatches to the workshop, and straightens out items to be restored. Shortly a special unit will begin to operate in Alamar to clean equipment affected by the mud and earth.

Transportation

There was a lot of discussion on the state of the railroad lines that were destroyed such as the stretches of Pinar del Rio, Guines, and the Via Central, where intensive work is underway. For this purpose a brigade from Villa Clara is expected to arrive to lend its assistance.

It was mentioned that the stretch of the Kilometer 40.1 marker near Jaruco on the Via Central will be the last to be completed on 11 August for technical reasons. Around 1 July work on the Las Monjas Bridge will be finished.

It is essential to solve the problem of freight and passenger transportation by rail as soon as possible and with the highest degree of safety. In the meantime, as a provisional measure, passengers are being moved by bus to Matanzas where they take the train to their destination; a situation that will worsen in the next few days because of the transportation of scholarship-holders to their respective provinces.

The need to provide by rail every material aid for the repair of sugar mills and to preclude these from being endangered was also analyzed.

Water

Extensively discussed were matters relating to the supply of potable water. In a matter of hours the town of Campo Florido will already enjoy this service and work is proceeding on the pumping equipment of Santiago de las Vegas, which could continue approximately 48 hours longer.

The supply of the precious liquid is guaranteed to the population by means of pipes. Service in the rest of the affected sources, such as Jaruco, has already been restored.

Tunnels

Regarding the state of the capital's tunnels, it was explained that in Havana Bay there is an excessive flow of waters from La Cabana and the Monumental and Naval highways for which reason it is appropriate to analyze thoroughly the maintenance of the drainage networks that are choked with a large amount of debris.

Also underway is a topographic survey in this area to determine precisely the critical situation raised by the Eastern Tunnel, including shortcomings in the pumping system itself.

With respect to the Linea Street tunnel, everything seems to indicate that its problem stems from deficient maintenance of the dependent areas, it also being essential to complete the operation with a network of drainage systems of neighboring areas such as 12th Street, Zapata Street, and Colon Street, something which is part of a major existing project.

Drainage

The need to take a drastic stance vis-a-vis those citizens and organizations that place construction materials in the streets was reasserted given that the rain led to serious blockages in the drainage networks.

Special mention was made of the Los Cocos development project in Boyeros where some homes continued to be under water between 1 and 2 meters deep. Powerful pumping equipment is being used there to drain the water as an emergency solution.

Other areas such as Tumba Cuatro in Calmito and a dairy in Guiaicanamar also remained affected and at the Guanabacos Jesus Suarez Gayol bakery the workers were performing energetic work.

Julio Camacho Aguilera stressed that a major effort should be undertaken at the beaches of the capital.

Dams

From the hydraulic viewpoint, explanations were given concerning 15 dams which were inspected out of a total of 25, those of Las Monjas, El Cacao, and Rio Hondo being the most critical. There, measures to stabilize the waters so as to reduce the potential danger were taken. For this purpose the sluices were checked and the floodgates opened.

From the hydraulic studies being realized proposals of a technical, social, economic, and touristic character will emerge.

Hydrotechnical Studies

The experts analyzed centers that are characteristic of the capital's outskirts such as the Jose Marti airport, the Martin Perez development project, the La Lisa sewer system, and the Cerro region, among others, so as to implement engineering recommendations. The Quibu River is included so that its drainage to the sea may be more rapid.

The party's first secretary in the city of Havana emphasized that the system of drainage into rivers and streams surrounding Havana Province and their flow had to be modified so that the waters will not be obstructed.

Finally, Julio Camacho Aguilers expressed the thought that it is necessary to recognize the large extensive resolve evidenced by our people before the existing emergencies and he observed that everywhere work is being carried out with speed and dynamism.

He added, and we quote: "We shall continue to hold constant working meetings and to seek solutions to our problems."

2662

CSO: 3010/1965

ESPIN ATTENDS CHEMICAL SOCIETY MEETING

Havana TRABAJADORES in Spanish 28 Jun 82 p 1

[Text] Vilma Espin, chemical engineer, alternate member of the Politburo and president of the Federation of Cuban Women, received her identification card as a new honorary member in the Cuban Society of Chemistry during the closing session of the first congress of this association, which was held for 4 days in the Ministry of Public Health.

The honor was also conferred on professors Julio Lopez Rendueles, Jorge Guerra and Demetrio Presillas in recognition of their long and fruitful dedication to this science in Cuba.

During the closing remarks, Jose R. Fernandez, vice president of the Council of Ministers and a member of the Central Committee, said that the commitment of chemists to the development, the well-being and the protection of our country is a great responsibility whose fulfillment requires dedication and perseverance.

He referred to the intelligence and ability of our scientific workers as our principal resource and recalled that there is practically no economic or social activity that is not related to chemistry, for which reason it is just and necessary to esteem this discipline and to channel our students into this vocation.

By unanimous agreement of the delegates, 4 November, the anniversary of the birth of Alvaro Reynoso, will be proposed for celebration as the Day of Cuban Chemistry.

Dr Ruth D. Henriques was reelected as president of the SCQ [Cuban Society of Chemistry] and the next congress will be held in Santiago de Cuba.

Noteworthy among the works presented to the conclave is one that deals with the production of proteins from hydrolytic syrup obtained from rice hulls, realized by Isabel Gozalez, Milagros Vaillant, Reynaldo Lopez Planes and Jacinto Echeverria.

The selection of this work took into consideration its degree of completeness and economic importance, since it offers a solution for the utilization of rice hulls, which are easily combustible and whose accumulation causes environmental pollution.

9907

CSO: 3010/1961

BRIEFS

SOLIDARITY WITH NICARAGUA REAFFIRMED--Representatives of Latin American and Caribbean political parties and liberation organizations met here in Havana, at the site of the Chilean Committee of Solidarity with the antifascist resistance, to reaffirm their support for the Nicaraguan revolution. The spokesman for Latin America was the representative of the Paraguayan Communist Party, Rogelio Gonzalez, while Silvio Martinez of the Salvadoran FMLN spoke in the name of Central America and the Caribbean. The speakers agreed that the firm parth adopted by the Sandinist revolution has helped incline the correlation of forces in the continent more and more toward the ideas of justice and peace, with which the imperialist enemy cannot agree. The first secretary of the Nicaraguan Embassy in Cuba, (Alejandro Castillo), voiced his gratitude for the solidarity expressed at the conclave and reaffirmed the Sandinist determination to continue on the revolutionary path despite U.S. aggressiveness and Washington's training of counterrevolutionary bands and Central American armies to be launched against the Nicaraguan people. [Text] [PA181945 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 18 Aug 82]

DONATIONS TO MTT--From Zaire Province, in our sister People's Republic of Angola, the schoolteachers and professors of the CheGuevara Internationalist Teachers Detachment [DPI] and the Frank Pais Contingent in Soyo reported that they sent to Luanda a contribution of money so that, when it is converted into Cuban currency, it should reach the Territorial Troops Militia [MTT]. At the same time, teacher Ines Maria Gonzalez of the DPI also reported that as part of the youth activities carried out at the present period, her collective visited the Punta del Padron [Memorial Point] beach 5 kilometers from the town of Soyo. Finally, our correspondent reminds relatives and friends that in less than 1 month her group will have returned to the fatherland and that up to the present time it is upholding the banner of emulation among the collectives of teachers from the detachment in the beloved country. [Article by Zenaida Ferrer] [Text] [Havana JUVENTUD REBELDE in Spanish 15 Jun 82 p 6] 9545

CSO: 3010/1860

MAGANA EXPRESSES VIEWS ON VARIOUS POLITICAL ISSUES

San Salvador EL MUNDO in Spanish 2 Jul 82 p 3

[Text] The interim president of the republic, Dr Alvaro Magana, warned yesterday afternoon that there would be no tolerance for the enemies of democracy and condemned the recent flareup of the destructive activities of subversive groups.

The head of the government made the above remarks last night on arriving at the legislature to read before the assembly his report that, according to the constitution, must be presented by 1 July. He was accompanied by the second and third vice presidents of the republic, Dr Mauricio Gutierrez Castro and Dr Pablo Mauricio Alvergue.

Emphasizing the struggle against the extremists, President Magana said that "the Armed Forces are exercising the right of legitimate defense in protecting us from the aggression of groups that have taken up arms and do not want to understand that the country turned its back on them on 28 March." In lamenting what he called a destructive attitude of these groups against their own country, he called for them to lay down their arms. He recalled the words of his acceptance speech when he took command, to the effect that in this government there would be no room for resentments, vengeance or retaliation, but that neither would there be tolerance for those who oppose the government objectives for national unity, which are pacification, democratization, confidence and economic security.

The president stated that after scarcely 2 months in office there was little to report, and that "we should be aware that during a transitory period of time very little can be completed but great things can be started."

President Magana expressed his appreciation to the deputies of the Constitutional Assembly for having approved the extension of the Law of Economic Stabilization, or Decree No 544, "which is necessary during the present circumstances, and the reasons were fully analyzed in the Council of Ministers," he said.

The interim president confirmed his faith in the Government of National Unity and guaranteed that in order to understand its significance "we must recognize that we are seeing the formation of an authentically democratic regime."

Also, in his report, he gave a brief account of his tour through Honduras, Guatemala and Costa Rica, in an effort, he said, to stabilize the Central American democratic community and restore the Central American Common Market.

President Magana said that his report covered scarcely 2 months, but that later on one would be given by each cabinet minister, as required by the constitution. Ministers and undersecretaries were present at this solemn occasion.

On concluding, the presiding officer of the Constitutional Assembly, Hugo Roberto Carrillo Corleto, delivered the words of thanks for Dr Magana's message and also expressed the hope that this Government of National Unity can reach the desired objective through understanding and by keeping always in mind the interests of the fatherland.

9907

CSO: 3010/1984

RIVERA Y DAMAS REFERS TO CONFLICT INTERNATIONALIZATION

San Salvador EL MUNDO in Spanish 5 Jul 82 p 2

[Text] San Salvador, 3 Jul (DPA)--The interim apostolic administrator of the Salvadoran Archdiocese, Arturo Rivera y Damas, stated while delivering the homily in the cathedral: "We have said ad nauseam that arms are neither the only nor the best solution for bringing peace to the country.

"Peace will not come when one side lords itself over the other," he added, and then went on to say that "This is not the solution, even though it would seem to be war's logic that one side would impose itself by force of arms and the other would lay down its arms."

He stated in his address: "What is at stake is not the false pride exhibited by arrogant souls, but rather a people bleeding and tearing itself apart and a country sinking into the blackest economic and social crisis."

Rivera y Damas has just returned from a month-and-a-half tour through several European countries.

The dignitary emphasized that we are internationalizing the conflict and needlessly prolonging the bloodshed.

Rivera y Damas denounced the continued murders and kidnappings. According to reports of the archdiocese's Commission for Justice and Peace, through its Office of Legal Protection under the archbishopric, from 19 June to 1 July there were a total of 107 victims of violence and 35 kidnappings.

"The 'death squads' still continue to act with impunity on our streets, and we do not know what is probably happening in the zones of conflict," the prelate commented.

He stated later that that is not a solution either, but is just the opposite, since for a long time repression must have been fertile ground for discontent, subversion and insurrection.

The dignitary said that prolonging the state of siege and extending Decree 544, which freezes all wages while the inflationary curve escalates at the same time, is not the right way.

He also added that the process of agrarian reform should be continued and amplified.

Rivera y Damas asked that he be allowed to praise the efforts of President Alvaro Magana, who is trying to create conditions favorable for economic recovery.

9983

CSO: 3010/1977

FINANCE MINISTER DISCUSSES DECREE 544 EXTENSION

San Salvador EL MUNDO in Spanish 23 Jun 82 p 1

[Text] Finance Minister Dr Jorge Eduardo Tenorio today justified the need to extend Decree 544, the Economic Stabilization Act, which expires on 30 June of this year and as of late last year is in its last extension.

Today, Tenorio, accompanied by the under secretary of economy, attorney Ricardo Alvarenga Valdivieso, visited the assembly at the request of that body's Finance Commission. He did this as a result of a request made by AGEPYM [General Association of Public and Municipal Employees] that the aforementioned decree not be extended, especially because of the imposition of the wage freeze and other measures considered harmful to large sectors of the Salvadoran population.

Finance Minister Tenorio admitted that Decree 544 has had an unfavorable impact on economically weak sectors, but at the same time he stated that it must be acknowledged that its implementation has been instrumental in halting the inflationary spiral plaguing our country, as we ourselves have seen. With regard to the wage freeze, which has been primarily maintained in the public sector, he stated that by using it a statewide economic imbalance has been avoided that would have been inevitable if wages were to have been allowed to increase. He went on to explain that it has been the government's policy to increase the number of jobs instead of granting wage increases for the good of a greater number of people; that is to say, a greater number of Salvadoran families. The minister recalled that many firms in the private sector granted the 10 percent increase established by the reforms made in Decree 544. This has without a doubt been a very positive measure to adopt considering the prevailing difficult circumstances, because in this case it affects the whole country and all working classes.

Idea for Reform

The Finance Commission, which compared notes today with the finance minister and the under secretary of economy on the propriety or impropriety of suspending the effects of Decree 544, seems to have the idea of proposing some reforms in the decree, primarily with regard to those points on which there is pressure being exerted by majority sectors that are possibly being hard hit by the measures imposed.

Stringent Sanctions

When one legislator asked the official how the sectors of the population would be helped in the current situation and in accordance with the provisions of the Economic Stabilization Act, Tenorio responded that with regard to price controls, more stringent sanctions could be implemented to avoid speculation and abuses in the trading of commodities, such as staple grains. Publicizing the names of violators or public admonitions, for example, would be one way of forcing merchants and all involved to obey the provisions of the act and any other measure benefiting the people in general. He added that in this sense it is intended that the IRA [Supply Regulation Institute] regulate prices, even though in practice this has not been possible due to the fact that the power of that institute is very limited. He concluded by saying that such power could be strengthened with the new kind of sanctions against violators, who must be convinced that arbitrary conduct can by no means be tolerated and that it is now high time in this country for these kinds of abuses to be done away with, since they harm the country as a whole and deserve the indignation of all the people.

It was stated that the Assembly Finance Commission will submit a report of what was discussed today with the aforementioned officials.

9983

CSO: 3010/1977

ACES DENOUNCES COFFEE INDUSTRY MISMANAGEMENT

San Salvador EL MUNDO in Spanish 24 Jun 82 p 2

[Text] The Coffee Growers Association of El Salvador [ACES] has reiterated that: "The mismanagement of coffee marketing has cost our country billions of colons and this deadweight is causing a setback in national development."

The association has sent us a communique dealing with this subject which states the following:

"In accordance with the statutes of the Coffee Growers Association of El Salvador, it is of the highest priority to raise the moral and intellectual level of both the small- and large-scale farmer and of the farmworker, thus contributing in a practical way to solving social problems.

"The ACES and the Salvadoran people in general are awaiting the results that will confirm the coffee marketing mismanagement which has cost our country billions of colons and acts as a deadweight which is causing a setback in national development.

"We justly believe that it is the government's duty to clear up the mismanagement in order to set precedents and obtain the necessary ties with the association of producers, which needs security on all levels to produce what is necessary and appropriate for the country as a whole.

"The ACES has pointed out to the new government the urgent problems that are hindering development of coffee growing, which without a doubt is, among other things, the largest single source of employment for the Salvadoran people. To date, however, the government has not made a response to these problems, indicating an absence of good intentions or of a desire to help provide short-term solutions for those problems.

"We have said that it is possible to solve the nation's problems by means of greater and organized productivity; this can only be achieved with productive work.

"It is the government's duty to make our agriculture profitable as a keystone for national development." 23 June 1982, Coffee Growers Association of El Salvador.

9983

CSO: 3010/1977

ANEP COMMUNIQUE DESCRIBES ACTIVITIES

San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 1 Jul 82 pp 2, 22

[Text] A comprehensive exposition of the changes being endured by the people of El Salvador was made yesterday during the general assembly of the ANEP [National Association of Private Enterprise].

At this meeting, a detailed report was given on the activities of ANEP in support of the democratization process in the country.

It was mentioned at this meeting that ANEP was the first institution to propose elections in the country.

A summary of ANEP's current activities is contained in the following communique from that organization:

"The most relevant aspects of the activities undertaken by ANEP during the 1981/82 fiscal year were explained yesterday afternoon to those present at this organization's general assembly, which took place at the auditorium of the Salvadoran Association of Industrialists (ASI).

A summary of the reports on the work done during the aforementioned fiscal year was read after a speech delivered by ANEP's president, Eduardo Menendez.

ANEP is composed of 31 trade union organizations which represent the majority of the industrial, commercial and banking institutions that generate the production and wealth in El Salvador.

The report presented at the general assembly points out that during the crisis that is shaking the republic's institutional foundations, ANEP has played a decisive role in the defense of the free economic system.

It was also explained that "during all the changes that the Salvadoran country is going through, the country's top enterprise has always been in the front line, counterattacking by means of civic campaigns and serious proposals, communism's offensive and other related tendencies which have conspired to nullify individual freedom in our country with the objective of ruthlessly establishing a totalitarian-style dictatorship inspired by Marxist-Leninist doctrines."

At the meeting it was recalled that ANEP was the first institution to point out the need to clear the way for an electoral process that would permit the Salvadoran people to express themselves freely at the ballot box and decide with their votes the political plan most suitable to their idiosyncrasies and aspirations.

It was about the middle of 1980, continues the report, that ANEP proposed the elections. In spite of the danger involved in maintaining this position, it insisted that the electoral way was feasible and imperative so that the Salvadoran people could begin to resolve their difficult situation and the country could return to the constitutional framework and immediately proceed to put in order the chaotic state of affairs El Salvador finds itself in due to the more than 2 years of destructive actions of the unrestrained Marxist-Leninist terrorism and to the failure of the measures of the de facto government.

Consistent with this idea, ANEP strongly supported the electoral process, trying to create awareness of the significance and importance of the results of the election set for 28 March of the current year.

Support for the Productive Alliance

The report stated that during the current fiscal year, ANEP spent its best efforts in strengthening the work of the Productive Alliance and that the Executive Committee and ANEP's executive and personal director were the main support for the diverse and important projects developed by the Productive Alliance at the national as well as the international level.

Support from Spain

The report emphasizes the support that ANEP received during the middle of last year through the signing of an agreement between this organization and the Spanish Confederation of Business Organizations (CEOE) in which the latter manifests its solidarity and support for the Salvadoran institution.

One of the points of this document was that the "Salvadoran problem should be seen within the context of its own reality and not in the distorted hues in which certain specific groups continue to present it."

Further along, the CEOE acknowledged the work accomplished by ANEP in defense of the survival of the private sector in El Salvador, supporting the efforts in this direction put forth by Salvadoran enterprise.

Other International Support

During August of the same year ANEP received the visit of a large delegation from the International Organization of Employers (OIE), headed by Rafael Lagasse of Belgium and Fernando Llanes Ramos of Mexico.

The purpose of this visit was to offer testimony of moral support to ANEP from that organization, which represents the employer sectors of 87 countries.

The support is motivated by the difficulties that private enterprise in El Salvador is going through due to the lack of understanding and the neglect shown this organization by top government officials.

Censures Franco-Mexican Pact

Early in September, ANEP went on record condemning "the interventionist act of the French and Mexican governments in recognizing the FDR [Democratic Revolutionary Front] as a political opposition force."

ANEP and other public opinion sectors denounced this manœuvre as an attempt to promote negotiations between the government and this organization, which represents terrorist and subversive groups.

Denounces Undisciplined Journalism

In February of this year, the report says, ANEP published a strong statement denouncing the attitude of the correspondents of some news agencies in not letting the world know the truth of the reality lived by the Salvadoran people, but rather distorting it to coincide with the interest and position defended by international subversion. The statement characterized this journalism as "undisciplined".

ANEP also criticized the attitude of certain North American senators and congressmen who erroneously interpret the events in this country, thus fostering the aim of the terrorism that has been battering the Salvadoran country for more than 2 years.

International Activities

During the fiscal year reported on, several trips were made to the United States of America, to various South American countries and to Europe. The object of these trips was to explain Salvadoran reality before international organizations and in this way contribute to clearing up the misinformation campaign.

Twin Associations Program

During the last few days of April, business leaders traveled to Phoenix, Arizona, with the purpose of establishing contact with the top business organization in the state.

Among the trip's purposes was that of establishing means of communication between the two organizations in order to facilitate the procurement of North American financing capital to achieve the rehabilitation of the Salvadoran economy.

Interviews with the Leaders of the Country

During the last days of May and the first days in June of the current year, members of ANEP, forming part of a group from the Productive Alliance, held interviews with the present top officials of the republic.

During the first visit to the interim president, Dr Alvaro Magana, he was informed that the productive sector had decided to back the initiatives taken under the concept of a free economy in order to start the national reconstruction process. He was also told that the attitude of the private sector was one of openness and communication.

The president expressed his good intentions and his recognition of private enterprise and said that the latter would participate in an active and influential manner in the economic rehabilitation of the country.

During the second interview, he used the opportunity to deliver the documents of the Second Symposium of the Productive Sector, celebrated on 29 May.

An interchange of similar ideas and opinions characterized the two visits to the president of the Constitutional Assembly, Roberto D'Aubuisson, who took the opportunity to declare his recognition and conviction concerning the vital function of the productive sector in sustaining the country's economy, at the same time that he affirmed that it is the intention of a strong sector of the assembly he presides over to authorize, within the rules of the economic system in the Carta Magna that this institution will dictate, the support for free enterprise as an instrument of economic and social development for the Salvadoran people.

9907

CSO: 3010/1984

BUSINESSMEN DEFEND FREE ENTERPRISE PRINCIPLE, SAYS ASI

San Salvador EL MUNDO in Spanish 5 Jul 82 p 2

[Text] Dr Oscar Alfredo Santamaria, who attended the 68th conference of the International Labor Organization (ILO) as a delegate from the business sector of the Salvadoran Mission, gave a report to that organization about the struggle of the private sector in El Salvador in defense of free enterprise, says the Salvadoran Association of Businessmen (ASI).

After summarizing the world situation, Dr Santamaria, according to the report sent through ASI, said: "El Salvador, placed in the world order among the so-called developing countries, faces those great problems that afflict humanity in special and dramatic circumstances."

The Salvadoran business delegate emphasized the poverty of the territory, the population growth, the deterioration of the Salvadoran economy within the context of the world recession, and then added: "In the case of El Salvador, its problems have worsened with the internal crisis it has been involved in during the past 3 years, which has driven our economy to total catastrophe. "So," he said, "foreign investments have disappeared, national productivity has decreased 35 percent during that period, national reserves, which before were in the black are now in the red, unemployment has increased in huge proportions, foreign currency, as a logical consequence, has disappeared, and to top it all, our most important export, coffee, has been quoted at a low price in the international markets."

He also said: "We can affirm, nonetheless, that the main factor influencing this crisis is the use that has been made of our country to stage an ideological struggle or confrontation between its various population sectors, reaching the point when irrational means are used that have provoked an armed struggle that we all deplore and censure."

Regarding the position held by business, Dr Santamaria said: "We emphatically declare that we cannot accept the establishment, much less by force or through the abuse of power, of foreign doctrines that urge the adoption of political and economic plans that are not in accord with the idiosyncracies of our people, who have rejected these in a categorical and brave manner. "

Finally, he said: "Our employer sector has done a heroic and patriotic job in defending vehemently the principle of free initiative, on which that of free enterprise is based, and which can exist only within the democratic states, as opposed to those states that are characterized by a marked interventionism or total control of the economy."

9907

CSO: 3010/1984

RIOS MONTT'S SUNDAY MESSAGE ON PRESS FREEDOM, TAXES

Guatemala DIARIO DE CENTRO AMERICA in Spanish 29 Jun 82 p 2

[Text] Government leaders are dedicated to carrying out their functions conscientiously, even at the cost of their own lives, said Gen Efraim Rios Montt, president of Guatemala, in his regular Sunday message, over radio and television. One example of this was seen last week, he said, when Mr Otto Martinez Recinos, minister of agriculture; Eusebio Garcia, agronomist; Air Force Lt Sergio Leonel Alvarez; and Mr Federico Ortega died in the performance of their duty.

General Rios Montt added that a group of schoolteachers decided that Teachers' Day would be a day of mourning; he expressed the hope that the day of mourning would dignify their work and help contribute to family unity since the profession of teacher signifies harmonizing peace and development in the attainment of culture.

There is a hymn that says we should carry a torch in our hand, but I say we should carry it in our heart, so that each man will be a brother to all, the nation's leader said. He added that if subversion is sown today, there will be no peace tomorrow, but if we teach peace there will be development and progress.

Relations With the Press

Regarding the press, President Rios Montt said that when a government is strong and allows criticism, permits an opposition to function, and encourages analysis of the conduct of the government and the economic, political, and social groups that participate in national life, then that government will have greater moral strength.

He said that when a campaign is orchestrated with objectives that do not favor either the wellbeing of the people or its institutions, the opinions expressed are practically personal ones. He said whenever the government says something to that effect, it is interpreted as an attack on certain groups, when it is really a clash of thoughts, views, and opinions.

He condemned the assault against the PRENSA LIBRE newspaper, remarking that such actions are exploited by the enemies of Guatemala, who are aware of our

weaknesses and our lack of institutional cohesion and take advantage of them by fostering confrontations. In the name of the government, he rejected as a lie the charge that government forces were responsible for the act.

It would be stupid for us not to face reality and to be unaware of what needs to be done in the field of discussion and dialogue, he said.

He added that there should be better communication between the press and the executive, legislative and judicial branches whereby errors would be recognized and weaknesses pointed out.

He said a house divided falls, while the enemy takes advantage of weaknesses and the lack of institutional cohesion to make us fight among ourselves. We must have dialogue; Guatemala deserves it.

We wish to see, he said, the press exercise its function as critic to promote a climate of morality so that our moderating and modifying authority will be broadened. We do not want a press that is subject to the government or to partisan economic interests. We want to see the press become an institution, but to achieve that we have to create the institutions; meanwhile, we are cleaning up our institution.

Taxes Will Not Be Raised

Concerning retailers, the president said he was aware that many of them are holding merchandise in warehouses in expectation of a crisis that will enable them to put their products on sale at higher prices.

He said taxes would not be raised, and therefore they would not be able to raise prices.

9015

CSO: 3010/1975

PNR LEADERSHIP AT ODDS OVER PARTICIPATION IN STATE COUNCIL

Guatemala PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 26 Jun 82 p 4

[Text] A group of leaders of the Reformist National Party (PNR), led by the coordinating secretary, Luis Pedro Quezada, yesterday rejected participation by the party in the Council of State and charged that decisions had been taken unilaterally and without consultation in the matter.

In making the charge, Quezada indicated that this week a minority faction, represented by Edmond Mullet, agreed to participate in the Council of State by itself and on its own behalf, without consulting with and in defiance of the position of a segment of the leadership.

We reject the statements claiming that the PNR had officially agreed to join the Council of State, he said, because such a decision can only be taken at a meeting of the party leadership, which was never consulted.

"We also disavow the alleged naming of Attorney Mullet as head of the PNR delegation in the Council of State," he added.

He said that a strong contingent of the party which he represents had commissioned him to declare that there was opposition within the PNR to participating in the Council of State, among other things, because it would only have two representatives while the DC [Christian Democratic Party] and the MLN [National Liberation Movement] would have three.

In addition, he said, there was no guarantee that the Council of State was going to mean effective political representation that would influence government decisions.

Quezada reiterated that in view of the lack of the necessary approval by important segments of the party, the alleged PNR participation in the Council of State was not legitimate; thus the action taken by Mullet and those who support the commitments made by him and the statements issued relating to the matter would be reviewed.

9015

CSO: 3010/1975

SLOW ECONOMY CAUSES UNEMPLOYMENT AMONG HARBOR WORKERS

Guatemala PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 30 Jun 82 p 6

[Article by Correspondent Edgar Octavio Castillo]

[Text] Puerto San Jose, Escuintla--The lack of work due to the absence of ships, in both import and export operations, is very evident at this port, where there is little activity, because of a series of factors, according to Gustavo Gonzalez Reyes, general superintendent for operations of the maritime agency.

"There is no industry, the farmers are producing very little, and the major export product, cotton, is scarce; if there is no production, there will be no exports," he observed.

Moreover, he added, there is the problem of foreign exchange, which has impeded imports. All these conditions have halted activities on the docks and thus the lack of work has been very marked; this has led to a very difficult situation for a high percentage of the inhabitants of the city, who depend wholly on dock work.

No ship has arrived in port lately, he continued. Announcements have been made concerning the arrival of "El Puebla," a Mexican flag vessel, and the Grace "Avelaire" and the "Clivia," of unknown registry and tonnage, but their arrival is not certain, he explained.

It is estimated that 40,000 bales of cotton will be exported this year, which is very low compared to last year's total of 65,000 bales.

Last year 70 ships docked at the port for import and export operations and they transported a large quantity of cargo. This year 82 ships have docked, but they have transported very little cargo due to the causes mentioned. Unloading of imports has been minimal because of the lack of foreign exchange.

Gonzalez Reyes explained that import cargoes have been lying in warehouses for from 4 to 6 months because of the foreign-exchange problem. Recently such cargoes have started to move slowly as merchants take merchandise out of the warehouses.

Regarding the lack of work, he noted that there are 800 people in the agency's work force when ships are in port. There are only 36, however, when ships do not call. The others are part-time laborers who are practically in a state of partial unemployment.

PAPO YOUTH QUESTION PAREDES' 'GOOD FAITH'

PA200335 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 18 Aug 82 p 6A

[Undated message from the youth group of the Popular Action Party, PAPO, appealing "to the conscience of Panamanian youths"]

[Text] After the change made by the nationalguard on 30 July, the current holder of power by virtue of arms, Gen Ruben Dario Paredes has made an appeal "in good faith" for all Panamanians to enjoy the "social peace" given to us by the nonprocess [desproceso] begun on 11 October 1968. This is not the first time that those currently usurping power made this type of appeal, precisely when the nation is experiencing one of its worst crises, produced by the mistakes these very people have encouraged. If General Paredes really wants the Panamanian people to have "faith" in his word, he must publicly explain the following: the mysterious death and disappearances of Hector Gallego, Floyd Britton, Rita Wald, Dora Moreno and Ruben Miro, among others. Those usurping public power should also inform us of how they have been able to amass their huge fortunes and own majestic mansions today. After 14 years of corruption and waste, we cannot be tricked into believing that there have only been irregular delays in the social security fund. We demand an impartial investigation of the million-dollar projects that have been carried out. We also want the people to see the accounts, beneficiaries and directors of transit [expansion unknown]; the Cerro Colorado Mining Development Corporation, CODEMIN; the Pacific Banana Corporation, COBAPA; the National Financial Corporation, COFINA and the fat payroll of presidential advisers.

The "patches" that Mr Paredes is trying to pass on the current constitution do nothing to resolve the institutional crisis, since a finger-appointed "junta of noble jurists" will not be the one to provide us with a truly democratic order based primarily on the military's return to the garrisons. Those who believe that the problem is solved by exchanging one figurehead for another are guilty of foolishness, since what must necessarily be dismantled is the system set up by the minority which prepared the 1972 constitution.

No citizen wishing truly democratic changes can implement them with the current structure, which allows those ruling the garrisons to control the state.

We call on all sectors committed to true institutional changes in our country to be not fooled by the siren songs of those who today preach "peace and concord" in their own fashion, when during 14 years they have fostered unemployment, an exorbitant public debt, the high cost of living and the worst thing: the selling of the homeland through the ignominious Torrijos-Carter treaties and the Treaty of Monteria.

The top leader of the national guard, General Paredes, gave us an example of the kind of "social peace" they advocate, when he closed down the print media and caused the newspaper LA PRENSA's facilities to be damaged.

The peaceful road that will help us overcome the current crisis which our country is experiencing demands the participation of all the vital forces within the Panamanian nation. That is why the immediate convocation of a national constituent assembly, with the fullest constitutional guarantees, is essential.

The constituent assembly is the alternative that will allow us to achieve true social peace, based on national consensus and not on the fear inspired by the weapons of the torchbearers.

[Signed] Norman Castro, secretary general of the PAPO Youth Group.

CSO: 3010/2160

PRD SUPPORT FOR PRESIDENT, 'TORRIJIST' PLAN

PA171439 Panama City MATUTINO in Spanish 16 August 82 p 9-A

[Paid advertisement: "Communique from the Democratic Revolutionary Party"]

[Text] In regard to the formation of the national government, the executive committee and the political committee of the Democratic Revolutionary Party [PRD]:

1. Declare the party's support for President Ricardo de la Espriella, founder and member of the PRD and distinguished executor of the Torrijist Plan, for his work and for the selection of those who will cooperate in his administration;
2. State that we will be on the alert to see that the government program, which is within the framework of our party's guidelines, is carried out by all officials in fellow party member President de la Espriella's administration;
3. Exhort President de la Espriella's new coworkers to identify themselves with the Torrijist Plan established in the PRD's postulates and declaration of principles;
4. Ask all PRD members to remain alert to assure the national government's strict compliance with the party's postulates, thus responding to the massive popular support that was made evident on 30 July 1982, the first anniversary of Gen Omar Torrijos Herrera's physical disappearance.

[Dated] Panama City, 12 August 1982.

[Signed] National Executive Committee
Berta Torrijos de Arosemena, president;
Dr Ernesto Perez Balladares, secretary general;
Dr Jorge Medrano, vice president;
Dr Abraham Saied, first assistant secretary general;
Dr Harley James Mitchel, second assistant secretary general.

CSO: 3010/2160

PRESIDENT MEETS SOCIALIST INTERNATIONAL LEADERS

PA141656 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2300 GMT 13 Aug 82

[Text] This morning Panamanian President Ricardo de la Espriella was visited by former presidents Carlos Andres Perez of Venezuela; and Daniel Oduber of Costa Rica and by Felipe Gonzalez, from Spain.

Perez, Oduber and Gonzales, leaders of the Socialist International, met with President de la Espriella for approximately 2 hours. They were interested in knowing the true status of the democratization program initiated in 1978 [as heard] in Panama by late Gen Omar Torrijos.

According to presidential sources, de la Espriella told the visitors that he will offer all the necessary guarantees so that the 1984 elections will be, according to plans, clean, free and honest. The Panamanian President also told the visitors that right now he is working to promote a national dialogue to find solutions to the country's problems.

The three visitors were in Panama for only a few hours. After visiting the president in his official residence, the Las Garzas Palace, they left for the Dominican Republic in a privately owned plane that brought them from Caracas, Venezuela.

In recent years, Oduber, Perez and Gonzalez have frequently visited Panama, especially to talk with the late General Torrijos, initially, and later with former president Aristides Royo and other officials, about the Central American crisis and other international problems.

Today's trip, which has not been previously announced, is the first the three have made to Panama since de la Espriella replaced Royo as president on 30 July. It has not been reported whether or not the three visitors met other Panamanian officials.

In the Dominican Republic, Carlos Andres Perez, Daniel Oduber and Felipe Gonzalez will attend on Monday the inauguration ceremony for the new president of that Caribbean nation, Salvador Jorge Blanco. They will also establish contact with other Latin American Socialist International leaders.

Acting Vice President Jorge Illueca and Col Manuel Antonio Noriega, deputy chief of the national guard staff, will go to Santo Domingo this weekend. It is believed that the Panamanian delegation will be composed of 20 persons.

BRIEFS

PRD TEMPORARILY CLOSES REGISTRATIONS--The PRD announces: That starting on 20 August 1982 and for a period of 2 months, party registrations are suspended. The measure has been adopted so that we can put our list of members in order. Our membership is advised that between January and June 1982 alone, there were more than 18,096 new registrations, which makes an unofficial total of 192,817 party members. Quite naturally, this compels us to call a temporary halt in revising our listings. We beg our thousands of new adherents who wish to register with our party to bear with us and to be alert for the opening of a new registration period. [Paid advertisement by Panama's Revolutionary Democratic Party, PRD] [Text] [PA192029 Panama City MATUTINO in Spanish 19 Aug 82 p 3-A]

CSO: 3010/2160

END